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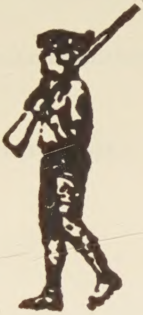

The Diary of Frederick Mackenzie

The New York Times & Arno Press

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DIARY OF
FREDERICK MACKENZIE

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DIARY OF
FREDERICK MACKENZIE

GIVING A DAILY NARRATIVE OF HIS MILITARY
SERVICE AS AN OFFICER OF THE REGIMENT
OF ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS DURING THE
YEARS 1775–1781 IN MASSACHUSETTS
RHODE ISLAND AND NEW YORK

VOLUME II

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V

R. ISLAND

V

R. ISLAND

19th July 1778.

Warm day. Close, thick weather. Wind S. W.

Came in a fleet from Halifax; and The Tryon, Privateer from New York. The Captain of The Tryon declares, that a French fleet of 12 sail of the Line and 4 Frigates, anchored off the bar o Sandy hook the 12th Inſtant.

Lord Howe is ſtationed within the bar, but is not ſtrong enough to attack the Enemy. Admiral Byron is hourly expected on the Coaſt with 11 Sail of The Line from England.

20th July. Thick heavy weather. Some rain. Very warm. Wind W.

The 38th Regt marched from Newport this morning, and encamped on Windmill hill, a short diſtance from the right of the 22d; and fronting Howland's ferry.

The two Battalions of Anspach embarked at 9 o'Clock in flat boats, and encamped on that part of Connonicut called Beaver's tail.

I think this a moſt dangerous position. The reason for placing them there, is to poſseſs the Island, and cover the Batteries at Fox-hill, (which fires on the Narraganset paſsage) and the Dumplins; (which fires on the entrance of the harbour). But if the French fleet appears, and succeeds in their attempt to come into the harbour, (which the battery on the Dumplins cannot prevent), we shall inevitably lose those two Battalions; as the withdrawing them from Connonicut, after the Enemy has forced an entrance, will be impracticable. We should not therefore risk the loſs of so material a part of our force. It would be much preferable to sacrifice a small detachment, sufficient for working the Guns and the defence of the Batteries.

21st July. Fine weather. Cool and pleasant. Wind N. E.

The fleet for New York, sailed under Convoy of the Fowey.

Our whole attention is now given to the encrease of our means of defence in case of the appearance of The French Fleet, which it is generally expected will make an attempt on this Island very soon; for as they were too late to intercept the fleet in coming down the Delaware, and will probably find it impracticable to force an entrance over the bar of Sandy hook, this station seems likely to be the next object of consequence, and one in which the Rebels may co-operate with them. We are therefore completing the Batteries on Brenton's-point, Goat Island, The Dumplins, and Fox-hill, as well as those at the North end of the town, as fast as poſsible. The Provisions and stores which are on board ships in the harbour, and in Storehouses on the Wharfs, are removing with the utmost expedition to the upper part of the town; and every other measure taking to repel the attacks of the Enemys fleet, and the Rebel troops.

The Frigates in the Bay and harbour have received instructions, upon the appearance of the French fleet, to make the best of their way to some convenient part of the shore on the W. side of the Island, where they are to land their Guns, Stores, Provisions, &c., and defend them as long as they can; and in the last extremity to burn them, to prevent them from falling into the hands of the Enemy. The Kingsfisher, and The Alarm, and Spitfire Gallies, stationed in the Seconnet, are to run under our battery at Fogland.

22d July. Thick heavy weather. Wind N. E.

A Soldier of the 38th Regt deserted from his post at Commonfence neck last night: but being immediately pursued, and unacquainted with the ground he was taken.

23rd July. Some rain in the morning. Thick weather all day. Wind N. E.

Unleſs the operations of the French Fleet are seconded by an Army of the Rebels, they will not be able to do much against this Island. They may indeed destroy the veſsels in the harbour, and poſsibly burn the town of Newport, but they cannot make any impreſsion on the Troops, or gain poſseſsion of any part of the Island. At present there is no appearance of any considerable body of troops aſsembling in our Neighbourhood, or any preparations for an undertaking of such importance.

Should the Enemy when they attempt to come in, divide their fleet and station ships in the different paſsages, they will run the risque, on the appearance of the British fleet, of being blocked up or destroyed in detail, as the wind which brings Lord Howe off the harbour, will prevent them from forming a Junction. We have no doubt, should the French fleet appear off this port, they will be followed by that under Lord Howe, as soon as he judges his force sufficient to attack them.

24th July. Fine weather. Wind N. E.

A boat with some men whom the General wanted to send to the Main for intelligence, was stopped last night by some of our Sentries on the Coast, (for want of previous information having been given of the design) and by that means delayed so long, that the people did not think it prudent to proceed.

Intelligence of the intentions & preparations of the Rebels is much wanted.

25th July. Clear pleasant weather. Wind S. W.

Came in The Sphynx from a Cruize.

There is no longer any doubt of its being a French fleet off Sandy hook. Their boats have been observed Sounding Off the bar. The boats of Lord Howe's fleet have taken a Boat going to The French fleet with 14 Pilots on board; all of whom it is said he ordered to be hanged immediately.

A Rebel Colonel who came this day to the Orpheus with a Flag of truce, informed Captain Hudson, that The French fleet had got within Sandy hook, and that Lord Howe lay at the Narrows.

26th July. Fine weather. Wind S. W.

The Faulcon Sloop of War came in this Evening from New York by way of The Sound, with dispatches from Lord Howe and General Clinton, notifying that the French fleet sailed from off Sandy hook the 22d Instant; and that in all probability they would make their appearance before this place.

It appears that Lord Howe is at anchor with his fleet within the Bar of Sandy hook, but too weak to venture out to pursue and attack the Enemy.

Admiral Byron is hourly expected on the Coast with 11 Sail of the line from England; and as letters directed to him at Halifax have been received there from England three weeks ago, Frigates have been sent to that port, and others are cruizing for him, to give him information of Lord Howe's situation, and direct him to proceed to New York.

The Army under Sir Henry Clinton remains Encamped on the Three Islands and at Kingsbridge. Mr Washington had paſsed the Hudson with his whole Army, and taken a position near White Plains. It was generally supposed at New York, that he would make an attack on Kingsbridge.

The Operations of the Army are now entirely suspended until the object of The French Fleet is known, or that fleet prevented from acting Offensively.

So extraordinary an event as the present, certainly never before occurred in the History of Britain! An Army of 50,000 men, and a Fleet of near 100 ships and armed veſsels, are prevented from acting Offensively by the appearance on the American Coast of a French Squadron of 12 Sail of the line and 4 Frigates, without Troops. Some unpardonable faults have been committed somewhere; and those whose duty it is to watch the motions of the Enemy in every quarter, should answer with their heads for risquing the fate of so large a portion of the National force by their supineneſs, and total want of intelligence. The total destruction of Admiral Byron's fleet, should it make the Coast in a dispersed or enfeebled state, may be apprehended.

27th July. Fine weather. Wind S. W.

The troops stationed near Newport are hard at work in strengthening the defences, and preparing to give the French ships a proper reception. The Batteries at Brenton's-point, The Dumplins, Fox-hill, Goat Island, and The North battery, have been mounted with Cannon, &c., in the best manner the time will permit. Near 20 pieces of heavy Cannon are already placed in the Batteries for the defence of the harbour. The troops stationed at the advanced parts of the Island are attentive to the Motions of the Rebels, and in readineſs to march to Newport should their presence there be required.

28th July. Good weather. Thick and Foggy in the afternoon. Fresh wind at S.

The Sphynx and Faulcon went out this Evening, tho' it blew hard. — The former on a Cruize, and the latter to New York, up the Sound.

29th July. Heavy rain, with Thunder & Lightning about 1 o'Clock this morning, which continued for an hour. Fine day. Wind S. W.

The Faulcon having been rather late in getting out last night could not clear the Lighthouse, and therefore was obliged to return into the harbour. The Sphynx got out to Sea.

About 9 this morning a fleet of large ships appeared to the S. E. standing for the harbour, they were soon after discovered to be French; and about 12 they came too off the S. end of the Island. From 1 to 5 they kept standing off & on; and then came to an anchor off Brenton's reef, about 4 Miles S. of the point, in a line abreast. They consist of 12 line of Battle ships and 4 Frigates; with several small craft attending them.

As soon as it was certain they were the French fleet, our Frigates in the Bay and Harbour (Flora and Faulcon excepted) got under way from their several stations and run close in under the West side of this Island. The Lark at Freeborn's-Creek, Orpheus at Almy's point, Cerberus at Layton's Creek, and Juno at Codrington's Cove; and immediately began to land their guns, stores, and Provisions. The Flora hauled close in to The Long Wharf, and The Faulcon behind Goat-Island. Preparations were at the same time made for burning or Scuttling the Frigates, as Lord Howe had sent orders to Captain Brisbane, the Senior Officer here, on no account to risque their being captured by the Enemy.

At 7 in the Evening two French Frigates came into the Seconnet paſsage, accompanied by a Brig which appeared a Rebel Privateer; upon which the Kingsfisher Sloop and The Spitfire Galley run up under our Battery at Fogland ferry, where they anchored, with The Alarm Galley, in a line acroſs the channel; The Kingsfisher nearest our battery, and the Alarm next the Rebel shore. The Kingsfisher immediately began to land her Guns, Stores, &c.

About the same time two large French ships stood for the entrance of The Narraganset paſsage.

On the first appearance of the Fleet, orders were given for the 54th Regiment to march to Newport, leaving their tents standing. They were immediately employed in thickening the parapet of the North Battery, which was not completed.

All the Carts and other Carriages which could be collected were employed in removing such parts of the Stores, provisions, and Ammunition as still remained in the lower part of the town, to the Ropewalk behind Brindley's, and to Bannister's, house.

Boats were immediately sent over to Connonicut, from whence the Two Battalions of Anspach and Brown's Regiment of Provincials were withdrawn, leaving small detachments only in the Batteries on Fox-hill and The Dumplins. The withdrawing these Battalions immediately, was certainly well judged. From the moment the French attempted to enter the harbour, it would have been impracticable, and the loſs of so considerable a part of our force, would have proved disgraceful and perhaps fatal. They should not have been sent there.

A Captain and 50 men were sent to the Battery at Brenton's point; a like number to Goat-Island; and a Picquet of a Captain and 50 men was poſted on the lower part of Brenton's Neck. The whole of the troops were ordered to hold themselves in readineſs to move at a moments notice.

30th July. Fine weather. Little wind laſt night.

Our Frigates employed in landing their Guns, Stores, &c. The Lark received orders, after moſt of her things were on shore, to re-ship them, and be ready to run through Briſtol ferry into Mount Hope Bay, if The French Fleet should come in.

At day break The French Fleet appeared in the same position they were in laſt night. Soon after day break, a two-decker, with her Colours out, ſtood over for the Narraganset paſsage, with the wind at W. As soon as she had paſsed the Light house she crouded sail, and ſtood up the paſsage. At 6 she reached opposite Fox-hill battery, which fired 4. 24 lb shot at her, each of which she returned with 7 or 8. However, she paſsed without any apparent damage, and about 7 o'Clock anchored half way between the N. point of Connonicut and Hope Island.

About the same time another large Ship ſtood in, and anchored off the entrance of the harbour, about 2 Miles from the S. point of Brenton's Neck, there she was soon after joined by two of the Eaſternmoſt ships of the fleet, who also anchored.

The two French Frigates in the Seconnet came up early this Morning, and anchored in the Station lately occupied by The Kingsfisher.

At 8 this Morning a Frigate appeared to the Eaſtward, near Martha's Vineyard. As soon as she discovered the French fleet at anchor off the harbour, she crouded all the sail she could, and ſtood off to the S. E. We suppose her to be an English Frigate. — Probably the Sphynx. The General, judging it would answer but little purpose to risque the loſs of the Detachments upon Connonicut, sent orders, as soon as The French ship had paſsed the Battery on Fox-hill, to withdraw them and the Guns from that Island. The Troops were brought off; but as there was not a sufficient Number of Oxen to remove the Guns, those on Fox-hill were spiked, and the 2. 24p^{rs} on the Dumplins were thrown down the Rock into the Sea. The Island was entirely Evacuated by 10 o'Clock, without any interruption.

At 9 oClock another two Decker ſtood up the Narraganset paſsage, and at 12 anchored near the firſt.

Wind W. after 12 o'Clock.

At 1 o'Clock, the Two French frigates in the Seconnet got under way with the Wind at N. W. and ſtood up towards Fogland. As soon as they reached Black point, orders were given to set fire to The Kingsfisher, which was immediately done. The Gallies ran up as far as the S. side of the Sandy point, where they were also set on fire, and in a short time the three veſsels were in flames. The moment the fire appeared the Frigates shortened sail, and they soon after anchored about a mile and half S. of the bluff point of Fogland, near the Rebel shore. There is a Brig in company with them. Our veſsels continued to burn fiercely, and about 3, the Alarm blew up and went to atoms. The Spitfire having some sails set, kept under way down the paſsage, and did not blow up 'till she got near the Bluff-point. The Kingsfisher burnt almoſt to the waters edge, and then breaking off from her anchor, drifted over behind the Bluff point where she went ashore, and soon after blew up. As there was not time to land the guns of these veſsels, and they were loaded, they went off as the fire reached them. Several of the shot fell near the Barracks, but fortunately no damage was done by them.

I think our people were rather too precipitate in burning the veſsels, for had the Gallies run to the N. Side of the Sandy point, and there waited the approach of the Enemy, who muſt have advanced under the fire of the 2. 12 p^{rs} at Fogland, and the 18 p^{rs} of the Gallies, which laſt would have raked them as they came up, they might have been saved for the present, and probably the Frigates might have suffered in attempting to come so high up. The preservation of the Gallies would have been a matter of great consequence to us. They might have run into Shoal water under Quaker-hill, or even higher up under the protection of the guns at Windmill hill, and Howland's bridge Redoubt where the Enemy could not have annoyed them.

The Frigates appear to be about 28 Guns each. Several boats went from them to the Rebel shore as soon as they anchored, but no considerable numbers of people appear on the shore.

We have not observed any particular movements among the Rebels since the arrival of The French fleet. They are in general perfectly quiet at all the poſts near us, and certainly are not prepared for a descent on the Island.

Some small Sloops came up the Seconnet in the Evening, and joined the Frigates.

The 54th Regiment returned to thier Encampment this day.

76 Rebel prisoners were landed this Morning from the Prison ships in the harbour, and lodged in the Barracks within the Redoubt at Fogland Ferry.

We have a party employed in repairing the Redoubt at Briſtol ferry. The Rebels fired two shot at them to day, but without effect.

The French took poſseſsion of Connonicut this day and hoiſted a White Colour there.

It is expected the Rebels will place some Guns in the Battery on the Dumplins, in order to annoy our Battery on Brenton's point, and facilitate the entry of the French Fleet.

Several boats paſsed from the Narraganset shore this day to the French fleet.

The French ships off the harbour continued in the same position at Nightfall as they had been all day.

Wind W. towards night.

Orders given for sending in the baggage of the Regiments encamped without our Lines; that they may not be incumbered therewith when ordered to march.

Abbattis are ordered to be made round the Redoubts.

It is the Generals intention to withdraw the Troops from the out poſts on the Island, and concentrate his whole force for the defence of the position near the town, as soon as The French fleet enters the harbour.

31st July. All quiet during the night. Hazy at day break, with the Wind at S. The French fleet seen off the harbour, and the whole under way ſteering towards Point Judith: at 6 they tacked and ſtood to the Eaſtward. We at firſt imagined their intention was to attempt to come in; but it soon appeared they were endeavoring to get further off shore, as there is a prospect of bad weather. They anchored at 10 o'Clock, something farther to the Southward than before.

The two ships off the N. point of Connonicut got under way when the reſt of their fleet did, and endeavored to work down the Narraganset paſsage; but the wind & tide being againſt them they were obliged to anchor in a line with the N. point of the Island. At 11 they began to warp down, but about 2 o'Clock, finding that little could be done that way, they deſiſted, not having got more than a mile down.

The Frigates in the Seconnet made no movement. We are inclined to believe, by this attempt of the two ships to go down again without having attempted anything, that The French Admiral has received some information of the approach of the Fleet under Lord Howe, or that under Admiral Byron, and that he is endeavoring to collect his force.

The fog came in very thick at 8 o'Clock, so that little could be discovered at Sea. At 1 o'Clock we could juſt discern the position of the Enemy's fleet. It was so thick in the afternoon, that no part of the surrounding shore could be seen.

Some rain after 6 in the Evening. Wind S. E.

No appearance of any movements among the Rebels.

The Crew of a Rebel Privateer landed on Connonicut yeſterday, where they plundered and abused the Inhabitants.

Orders were given laſt night for the baggage of all the Regiments encamped without the Redoubts, to be sent into town immediately.

It has been determined this Morning by the Generals, to withdraw the Troops from the North part of the Island, bring off all the Cannon and Stores, burn all the Barracks, and drive in all the Cattle and horses, as soon as it becomes evident that the French Fleet are determined to force an entrance into the harbour. Every thing is to be withdrawn within the New Redoubts, and our defence on the land side is to be confined to that height and position from Tomini hill on the left, round by Green-End and Eaſton's beach on the right. It is taken for granted, that the Rebels will attempt making a descent under cover of The French ships; If that is the case, it will moſt probably be attempted somewhere on the E. side; — and as The Mill-Creek opposite Fogland is the most likely place for assembling boats for a descent on any part S. of Fogland; and Wanton's Cove near Howland's ferry for the like purpose N. of Fogland; it should if poſsible be ascertained whether they have any number of boats, or any considerable bodies of troops collected at or near those places; — for if they have not, it is probable the Object of the French fleet is nothing more than to intercept our Victuallers from England, which since the appearance of the Enemy off Sandy hook, have probably received orders to proceed to this port. Having effected that object, they may perhaps proceed to Boſton.

1st August 1778 Extreme thick fog laſt night, which wetted every thing exposed to it.

Thick weather at Sea, and fresh wind at S. moſt part of the day.

In consequence of the French ships in the Narranganset having moved part of the way down that paſsage yeſterday, orders were sent laſt night to The Cerberus, Lark, and Orpheus, to reship their Guns, Stores, &c., and proceed down to Newport; in pursuance of which they have been hard at work all laſt night and this day in taking them on board.

A Soldier of the 22d Regiment deserted laſt night from the advanced poſts. He was fired at and wounded. The Serjeant of a party which was sent in pursuit of him came up with and seized him, but the deserter being a ſtout fellow, broke from the Serjeant, whose firelock being rendered uſeleſs from the wetneſs of the night, he escaped. The fog was so extremely thick, that it was with great difficulty the party found thier way back.

Lieut Chas Handfield of the 22d Regiment, with 6 men of that Corps; went in a small boat laſt night round Pappasquash point, with an intention to land above it, and if poſsible carry off some person, by way of gaining intelligence; but the Rebel Sentries were so numerous, alert, and suspitious, that notwithſtanding he pretended to be a French Officer from one of the ships below, they would not suffer him to come near the shore without the Countersign, and at laſt fired at him; so that he was obliged to return without effecting his purpose.

Colonel Fanning's Regiment of Provincials marched from Newport laſt night, and took poſt near Redwood's house on the Weſt road; the General being apprehensive from the Vicinity of The French ships that the Rebels might make some attempt on that side; especially as many Privateers and small Craft had been plying about between Prudence and Connonicut during the day. The Regiment returned to Newport this morning.

Nothing could be seen of the French fleet 'till 9 this morning, when they were observed at anchor in the same position as before. The Ships in the Narraganset and Seconnet, are also in the same position as yeſterday. The fleet continued at anchor all day. They have two Frigates conſtantly cruizing in the Offing.

Orders were given this morning for all the horses, Cattle, Calves, and Sheep (except a Milch Cow for each family) to be collected and driven within our Lines. Orders were also given for deſtroying all Carriages which could not be brought in; and for collecting all sorts of tools, and disarming the Inhabitants. Parties under the Command of an Officer, from each Regiment, attended by some of the Commiſsaries, were appointed to carry these orders into execution.

Signals, made by great Smokes, have been observed this day on the Narraganset shore, and thence up to Providence. The Rebels have for some time paſt, conveyed intelligence of the movements of veſsels from New York, and down The Sound, in this Manner.

Some boats from the French ships off Black point having come near our shore this morning, three shot were fired at them from Fogland Redoubt, which obliged them to return.

The Troops ordered to lie dreſsed at thier several ſtations 'till further orders.

2^d^ Aug^t^ Fresh wind at S. all day. Very warm weather.

The French Fleet at anchor as before.

Lieu^t^ Handfield, with 6 men of the 22^d^ Reg^t^ landed laſt night upon Connonicut, from whence they brought off two Inhabitants. The Account these people give is, that a very formidable attack will be made upon us very soon; Sullivan, with 15000 men being in our Neighbourhood; and Arnold and Fayette on board The French fleet with a Brigade of Continental Troops, which they took in off the Delaware. 'Tis expected that by the 5^th^ Inſtant 20,000 men will be aſsembled for the Expedition. They talk of making four different attacks; viz^t^ one from the French fleet, near the town; one on the Weſt side from Connonicut or Prudence; One on the Eaſt side from Fogland under cover of the French frigates; and the principal one on the N. end of the Island from Howland's ferry. They say the French fleet is come into the harbour at the same time. D'Estaing, who commands the French Fleet, is preſsing them to commence their operations as soon as poſsible, but the Rebels are not yet in readineſs. They say the whole Country is now unanimous, that they find no difficulty in getting men, and that they are certain of taking the Island.

Several veſsels came up the Narraganset paſsage this day, and anchored near the French ships.

The Negroes on this Island have been invited to join the King's Troops, and have been promised pay and provisions; but very few of them having come in, Orders were given to bring in all those who are capable of any service, as they are much wanted as drivers, and other services.

Few or none of the Inhabitants have offered their services for the defence of the Garrison: even those who aſsociated last winter for that purpose, are now so alarmed, and many of them so certain that the place will be reduced, that they have declined acting at all in The King's Service. A few of the Merchants who came here with The Army, and one or two young Gentlemen of the place, have desired to serve as Volunteers with some of the Regiments.

The troops stationed in Newport, and within our lines, are constantly employed in making Abbattis round all the Redoubts, in clearing away all obstructions in front of them, and in removing Stores of different kinds to places of security. The troops at the N. end of the Island, have repaired Bristol ferry Redoubt, which was in a bad state, and have made an Abbattis round Bunau's Redoubt. Their duty is rather severe, as they are employed during the day in strengthening our defences, and at night in watching the motions of the Enemy, and guarding against any sudden attempt they may make on any of our posts.

The Lark, Orpheus, and Cerberus, and The Pigot Galley, having taken in their Guns, Stores, and most of their provisions, again, went down this day towards the town. The resolution of withdrawing the Troops from the N. end of the Island as soon as the French fleet enters the harbour, is the cause of this movement. The ships may probably be saved by getting near the town, and their guns and Stores will be of service in the defence of the Garrison. They are ordered to put their Guns, &c, on shore as near the town as poſsible.

3rd Augt Thick fog all last night, and fresh wind at S. Strong S. wind all day, and very warm.

Two small tenders arrived at 4 this Morning from New York with dispatches from Lord Howe, and Sir Henry Clinton, dated 30th & 31st July. One of the Tenders ran through the French fleet and got safe into the harbour; the other also ran through them, but was fired at and chaced, which obliged the Officer Commanding her, to run her on shore near Castle-hill, Brenton's neck, from whence he got safe to Newport with the letters. It appears by these dispatches, that Lord Howe, having been joined by The Cornwall of 74 Guns, one of Admiral Byron's fleet, and by The Raisonable and Centurion from Halifax, thinks himself of sufficient force to attack the French fleet, whose situation off this Island he is perfectly informed of; and therefore he and General Clinton aſsure General Pigot of immediate aſsistance. The Officers who came from New York say, that Lord Howe's fleet was warping out from Sandy hook on the 31st July; and as it is supposed they all got out, and were under sail yesterday Evening, we may soon expect to see them in the Offing. This intelligence has given us all fresh spirits, and we are now in expectation of seeing the French fleet beaten, and the hopes of the Rebels destroyed.

The French sent in some boats in order to destroy the dispatch veſsel which was run ashore, but the people on board her, waiting 'till they came near, gave them a Volley of small arms, and some Swivels, which obliged them to sheer off with some loſs.

At 8 this morning, the small veſsels which anchored yesterday near the French ships in the Narraganset, got under way, and stood up behind Prudence, and by Warwick point into Providence River, where they arrived and anchored about 2. They consist of two Ships, two Brigs, a Schooner, and two large sloops. The ships appear to be of some force, and probably are Privateers, with some prizes they have lately taken.

Several small Sloops have been observed yesterday and this day, going from Bristol and Warren towards Providence.

In consequence of the accounts received this morning, and the probability there is, that the French ships in the Narraganset, will go out the first fair wind, and join their Fleet; it has been determined that The Frigates which had gone towards the Town, should resume their Stations on the West side of this Island, in order to cut off the Communication between the Narraganset shore, and Bristol, as well as to protect the West side from the attempts of Privateers & small parties; and also to shew the Rebels that they still have something to apprehend from our ships, notwithstanding the situation of the French Fleet. In pursuance of these orders, The Lark, Orpheus, & Cerberus, with the Pigot Galley came up from Newport, and anchored on the W. side; The Lark and Pigot off Freeborn's Creek; The Orpheus above, and The Cerberus below Dyer's Island.

Bunau's Regiment marched this Evening from Newport, and took poſt on the E. side, near Elam's house.

General Pigot has signified to the Troops, that he has no doubt, on the present occasion, of experiencing that alacrity and Zeal which has so conſtantly marked every part of the Combined force under his Command; and he has aſsured them that no pains shall be spared to leſsen their fatigues; and that he is convinced they will with chearfulneſs discharge every neceſsary duty, and thereby ensure succeſs to their united operations.

Lieut Handfield is appointed to act as Aide de-Camp to General Pigot.

4th August. Thick fog all laſt night. Wind S. S. E. wind from 10 this morning, with thick weather. About 11 it came round to the S. W. and blew fresh. We juſt then got a sight of the French fleet, in the same position as before.

Everything quiet during the night.

All the baggage of the Troops under the Command of General Smith at the N. part of the Island, has been sent in to Newport. The Tents of the 22d, 38th, & 43rd Regiments were also ſtruck this day and sent into town. The 22d & 38th are to lie in the Barracks at Windmill hill, and the 43rd, in the Quaker's Meeting on Quaker hill. The Landgrave's Regiment keep their tents, as they have no other cover near their poſt.

When the Rebels at Howland's ferry saw the tents sent in, in the Evening, they imagined the troops were to be withdrawn also, and immediately sent over a small party on Commonſence Neck to observe our motions; but a shot being fired at them from Briſtol ferry Redoubt they moved off.

All the Guns are now withdrawn from the N. end of the Island, except a 12Pr in Briſtol ferry Redoubt, and an old 9 pr in that opposite Howland's bridge.

All Stores and baggage have been sent in; and the troops are without any incumbrances, and ready to move on the shorteſt notice with the utmoſt expedition.

All the Cattle on the Island, except a Cow to each family: all the horses; as many Carts and other Carriages as we have occasion for, and all kinds of entrenching Tools, have been sent into town. The Negroes have also been collected and sent in. Such Carriages as we could not use have been destroyed.

It has been proposed to General Pigot, to destroy the Redoubts, and burn all the Barracks and every house upon the Island without our lines. But as this is a measure which would be attended with the utmost distreſs to numbers of innocent Inhabitants; productive of no inconvenience to the Enemy at this season of the year; and, if we again poſseſs the whole Island, extremely distreſsing and inconvenient to ourselves, he has rejected it. The destroying such houses as are within reach of our lines and may afford cover to the Enemy, is certainly proper and justifiable; but the wanton destruction of the property of innocent people, when it is productive of no advantage to us, and cannot be the means of prolonging our defence, would be cruel and would cast a stain upon our arms which we should find it difficult to wipe off.

At 3 this afternoon Six small Schooners & Sloops came out from behind Connonicut & Prudence, and Stood down as far as Halfway rock. The Cerberus fired two shot at the headmost, which fell short. She, in return fired a Swivel at the Cerberus and then stood up towards Gold-Island, followed by the others.

A two Decker came about half way up the Narraganset passage this afternoon, and anchored there.

5th August. Thick foggy weather. Wind S. W.

The weather too thick to admit of our seeing the French fleet.

The troops were informed last night, that on three Guns being fired from the North Battery in Newport, (which is the Signal that the Enemy is landing) they are immediately to get under arms. On this Signal, Ditfourth's Regiment is to throw 200 men into Tomini hill; 30 into the Fleche on the left of it, and 50 into Irishes Redoubt.

About 5 this morning the two French ships which came first into the Narraganset paſsage got under way and stood round the N. point of Connonicut, towards The Cerberus Frigate, which lay under the W. side of this Island, nearly opposite the opening between Connonicut and Prudence. On seeing them in motion the Cerberus slipped her Cable and endeavored to get down to the town; but finding, that in standing over to Connonicut (as she was obliged to turn down) she must have run acroſs the headmost of the Enemy's ships, which approached fast, Captain Symmons was obliged to run her on shore behind Redwood's, and set her on fire. All the Crew got safe on shore. The ship blew up about 8 o'Clock. One of the French ships ſtood in and fired some shots at the Cerberus's people, but without effect. She then tacked, as if intending to run down towards the town, which being perceived by The Juno, lying near Codrington's Cove, she was set on fire also, and blew up soon after. The Crew were all landed.

The Orpheus, Lark, and Pigot Galley, observing the other French ships coming up between Prudence and this Island, were immediately run on shore; the Orpheus at Almy's point, and the Lark and Pigot at Freeborn's Creek, where, after the Crews had landed, they were set on fire. The Orpheus blew up about 7 o'Clock; the others not till near 12.

The French ships, seeing the service they came upon effected, returned about 9 o'Clock, and anchored off the N. point of Connonicut.

The Explosion of some of our Frigates was very great, particularly that of The Lark, which had 76 barrels of powder in her Magazine. The house of one Wilcox in the Swamp, near which The Lark blew up, was set on fire by some of the burning pieces of wood which flew from her, and was totally consumed in a short time. Some pieces of burnt wood fell in the Redoubt at Windmill hill.

Some books and papers belonging to The Orpheus, were found three miles from the place where she blew up.

It was a moſt mortifying sight to us, who were Spectators of this Conflagration, to see so many fine Frigates deſtroyed in so short a time, without any loſs on the part of the Enemy.

A great number of small Sloops and Schooners, all Rebel Privateers, have been plying about the whole morning on the W. side of the Island. About 11 o'Clock four of them anchored close off the wreck of The Orpheus, and sent their boats on shore in order to pick up what they could find: about 20 men landed from them, and ſtraggled about on the shore. I happened about that time to be going down the hill on horseback to observe the effect of the Explosion, and was much surprized to see the vessels at anchor with the 13 Stripes flying. I returned immediately to General Smith, and got his permiſsion to bring down 2. 6 p^{rs} with a party to cover them, which was done in about half an hour. As soon as they saw our Guns unlimbered, they got under way, (thier boats having gone off as soon as they saw the

Guns coming down) and made off with great expedition under the E. side of Prudence, where they anchored. We fired 28 Shot at them, some of which ſtruck them.

We can observe no particular movements on the Rebel shore today; but it is certain they are aſsembling a large body of troops.

The Crews of the burnt ships are at present lodged in Newport. An Encampment is to be marked out for them near the town.

The Troops are ordered to be under arms at 3 o'Clock every morning 'till further orders.

6th August. Fine weather, but very hot. Wind W. N. W.

Four French line of Battle ships were in the Narraganset passage laſt night. The remainder of The French fleet without continue in the usual position.

Two Officers of the 54th Regiment who were bathing this morning opposite the French frigates in the Seconnet, had three Cannon shot fired at them from one of them. We thought this an Action very inconsiſtent with French politeneſs.

Many movements of boats on the Rebel shores to day; but particularly from the several parts of Mount-Hope bay, towards Howland's ferry, where the Rebels appear to be aſsembling in considerable numbers.

Several small Privateers plying about on the W. side of the Island. They landed about 20 men under a Lieutenant at Stoddard's about 1 o'Clock, and plundered his house and Potter's, taking almoſt every thing they could lay their hands on, and beating and ill-treating the Women. Some of them told Stoddard they only waited for the arrival of the remainder of the Militia, to attack the Island. As soon as some small parties of ours were sent out, they retreated on board their veſsels.

The Kingsfisher having left a boat on the E. shore of the Island when the French frigates came into the Seconnet, nine men of Brown's Provincial Regiment deserted in her this day, and went on board the Frigates.

We are using every means in our power to obſtruct the approach of the Enemy by Sea and land, in case they attack us; and it is fortunate, that, by their remaining so long inactive againſt the Island, they have given us time to do so. Several large Transports have been sunk off the North Battery and Goat-Island; so that no line of Battle ship can bring up nearer to them than 800 yards. Trees have been felled at Green-end, and Abbattis are forming round all our Redoubts, and from Greenend, quite round to Tomini hill. Two small Redoubts with Cannon in them, have been conſtructed on the high ground at the entrance of Brenton's Neck, that in case a body of men should be landed from the Fleet, the acceſs to the town on that side may be rendered more difficult.

Everything in front of our Redoubts which can afford any cover to the Enemy in their approaches, is clearing away.

The Inhabitants of Newport have been informed, that in case the Enemy take poſseſsion of the town, the General muſt be under the neceſsity of burning it, in order to dislodge them, and

Liſt of The British Fleet which sailed from Sandy Hook, the 6th Aug^{t} 1778. under The Command of Lord Howe —

Ships	Guns	Men	Commanders
Eagle	64	522	Vice Adm^{l} Lord Howe Captain Duncan Captain Curtis
Trident ...	64	517	Commodore Elliot Captain Molloy
Preston ...	50	367	Commodore Hotham Captain Appleby
Cornwall ..	74	600	Cap^{t} Edwards
Nonsuch ..	64	500	Cap^{t} Griffiths
Raisonable	64	500	Cap^{t} Fitzherbert
Somerset ..	64	500	Cap^{t} Curry
S^{t} Albans ..	64	500	Cap^{t} Onslow
Ardent	64	500	Cap^{t} Keppel
Centurion .	50	350	Cap^{t} Braithwaite
Experiment	50	320	Cap^{t} Sir J^{s} Wallace
Isis........	50	350	Cap^{t} Raynor
Renown ...	50	350	Cap^{t} Davison
Phoenix....	44	280	Cap^{t} Parker
Roebuck ..	44	280	Cap^{t} Hammond
Venus	36	240	Cap^{t} Williams
Richmond..	32	220	Cap^{t} Giddin
Pearl	32	220	Cap^{t} Linzee
Apollo	32	220	Cap^{t} Pownall
Sphynx	20	160	Cap^{t} Greame
Nautilus ...	16	125	Cap^{t} Beecher
Vigilant....	20	150	Cap^{t} Christian
Strombolo F. S	..	45	Cap^{t} Applin
Sulpher F. S.	..	45	Cap^{t} Watt
Volcano F. S.	..	45	Cap^{t} O'Hara
Thunderer B	8	80	Cap^{t} Gambier
Carcaſs B	8	70	L^{t} Edwards
Philadelphia G	.	30	L^{t} Paterson
Huſsar G	.	30	L^{t} Sir J^{s} Barcla
Ferret G	.	30	L^{t} O'Brien
Cornwallis G	.	30	L^{t} Spry
Total	1064	8186	

maintain the poſt. Numbers of them therefore are removing, with their moſt valuable effects, to the heights above the town.

My family removed yeſterday Evening and Encamped near the Library.

The Crews of the burnt Frigates have been formed into a Corps under the Command of their own Officers, and detachments therefrom have been ſtationed at the different Batteries.

Lieu^{t} D'Auvergne of The Navy is appointed Major of Brigade to the Corps of Seamen.

7th Aug^{t} Clear weather. Wind S. W.

At 6 this Morning two of the French ships in the Narraganset paſsage got under way, and ſtood down towards the Fleet. At 8 one of them anchored half way down the back of Connonicut. The other joined the ship which lies neareſt off the Mouth of the harbour. This movement gives us hopes that they have received intelligence of the approach of Lord Howe, and are drawing their line of Battle ships together. The reſt of the Fleet continue in the usual position.

A Rebel Battalion encamped yeſterday Evening at Howland's ferry. Another Battalion encamped there about 2 this day. They pitched only 50 Men's tents, but none for Officers. The Battalion which encamped yeſterday Evening, ſtruck their tents about 5 this afternoon, and at Sunset were put over in flat Boats to the W. side of Wanton's Cove (or Quaket pond) nearly opposite Gold Island, where they encamped. This Battalion does not appear to conſiſt of more than 200 men.

Many large boats, with Troops, tents, Stores, &c. &c. came to Howland's ferry this day from Taunton River, and behind Mount Hope. Few or no people appear opposite Fogland, or to the Southward of it, but about Howland's all the houses are full of Troops.

All our Cannon have been removed from the N. part of the Island, except a 12 p^{r} in Briſtol ferry Redoubt, and a 9 p^{r} in Howland's bridge Redoubt. The Battalion Guns however remain with the Regiments. Every article of baggage and all the tents have also been sent in; so that the troops are freed from all incumbrances, and ready to move upon the ſhorteſt notice. The Officers are without a change of any kind. The troops lie upon their arms; — The 22d Regiment at Windmill-hill Redoubt; the 38th at The Artillery Redoubt; the 43rd at The Quaker's Meeting; The Landgrave's Regiment on the left of Turkey hill, where they were encamped; The Flank Companies in Fogland ferry Redoubt; The Chaſseurs near Bowler's house; and the 54th on their ground near the Blacksmith's. A Battalion from Newport has been sent out for some nights past, and taken post, sometimes on the E. and sometimes on the W. side of the Island, according as the motions of the Enemy indicated an attack on either side.

Small armed Sloops or Boats have been dispatched almost every night since the arrival of the French fleet, with letters to Lord Howe and Sir Henry Clinton, giving them information of our situation as well as that of the Enemy. Some of them will doubtleſs arrive safe.

The Marines of The Frigates are now embodied under the Command of Captain Coutts of that Corps. They are encamped by themselves, and take a part of the duty of The town, amounting to 1 Captain 2 Subs and 60 men.

We are all extremely anxious for some account from Lord Howe or a sight of his fleet, in the Offing. If he has the number of Ships with him which we are told he has, and is acquainted with the position of the Enemy's fleet, we think he will soon appear. When we reflect how much is at stake, we cannot pretend to blame him for not seeking the Enemy until the force of his fleet gives him a certainty of succeſs. If he should, by a precipitate attack, be defeated in an action with the French fleet, the consequences are obvious and dreadful; — no leſs than the certain loſs of this Island and the Force on it, and probably that of a great part of our troops in America, as by losing our superiority at Sea, the Enemy would have it in their power to deprive us of all supplies from Europe, and the posts we hold in the Vicinity of New York could not afford subsistence for the Troops there for three Months. The loſs of a great part of our Naval force in America, and that of a large fleet of transports, attending the Army, which would neceſsarily follow a defeat of our fleet, would lay the Nation under almost insurmountable difficulties, and throw such a damp upon the spirits of the people at home as might lead to the loſs of our American Colonies. As Admiral Byron is daily expected on the Coast with a fleet of large ships, and as from our force and situation we may be expected to make considerable efforts and prolong the defence of this Garrison, we cannot blame Lord Howe for waiting to be joined by such a number of Admiral Byron's ships as will give him a decided superiority over the Enemy's fleet. He would deserve censure should he make a precipitate attack on the Enemy, and hazard so much, when by waiting for a short time he may have it in his power to give a capital blow to the Naval power of France, & the hopes of America. It seems to be the general opinion that the French [fleet] is in a very dangerous position, should Lord Howe appear with a Superior Fleet, as the Wind now stands. It is conceived that in that case, their safety would consist in forcing their way into this harbour.

I think it may with safety be averred, that if our force now in the Island, is drawn together within the position which The General has determined to take for our defence, we may, by a proper exertion of it, bid defiance for at least ten or twelve days to the united force which may be brought against us. There can be no doubt but Lord Howe will appear before the end of that period.

It has been suggested to the General, that the troops should not, upon the French Fleet entering the harbour, be withdrawn from the Northern parts of the Island; but keep their position, and wherever the Rebels attempt to land, march immediately and attack them; because, as such an attack would probably succeed, they would be deterred from making any other attempt to land. I cannot be of that opinion, for although it is certain that the longer we keep poſseſsion of the extremeties of the Island, the longer we delay the approach of the Enemy to the town; yet the utmost care should be taken, that, whenever an attack by Sea and land is certain, we retire in such time as not to run the risque of having any part of the troops advanced, cut off, as such an event would give great advantages to the Enemy, and depreſs the spirits of the remainder of the Garrison.

The troops now advanced, from the principal part of the force on the Island, and are such as can be depended upon, (viz^{t} Four Battalions, and four Flank Companies of British, the Landgrave's Regiment, and The Heſsian Chaſseurs). Should any considerable part of these troops be cut off, no great exertions can be expected from the remainder of the Garrison, who are not inspired by that high sense of National and personal honor which is the Characteristic of the British troops. If the General can obtain certain information of the precise time and place at which any particular attack on the part of the Rebels is to be made, it would be highly proper to use every means to repel it; but if it is the intention of The French and the Rebels to make a joint attack, it will be prudent to withdraw the Troops in such season as to afford time to break down bridges, fell trees acroſs the roads, and throw such other impediments in their way as would retard them more effectually in the end, than disputing the N. end of the Island with them. As the distance from Windmill-hill Redoubt to our lines at Newport, is full 8 miles, and as we have no shipping on either side of the Island, we expose a long undefended flank to the Enemy who have the Command on the water. I cannot conceive that it would be prudent to run the risque of being obliged to retire hastily, or be driven into our lines. The Rebels, with the aſsistance and under Cover of the French ships might land troops; on each side, five or Six Miles behind Windmill hill, in which case the advanced troops must immediately retire and force their way to town. The numbers the Rebels might bring against us, and the spirits it would give them to drive us before them, would poſsibly elate them so much as to end in a Storm on our Lines and Redoubts, which under the circumstances of the particular case, might be attended with succeſs. Lines, if briskly attacked, are generally carried. It was the opinion of almost every Officer in the British Army, that if we had attacked the Rebel Lines at Brooklyn, immediately after the Rebels were driven into them the 27th August 1776, we should have carried them with a small loſs, and captured the whole of the Rebel troops then on Long Island. In the Action of the 7th of October near Stillwater, General Burgoyne's troops were driven back into their lines by the Rebels, who were so elated by their suceſs, that they at length stormed them, and the part which was defended by the German Troops was carried.

With such a considerable extent of Coast to defend without shipping of any kind, and the practicability of the Rebels landing a considerable force on Common fence & Howland's Necks, without our being able to prevent them, we cannot expect to repel the attacks of the Enemy should they make them in several places at once. A complete defeat of one attack would not prevent the succeſs of others; and by our waiting to repulse the attack which would be made on the most advanced part of the Island, the other attacks on our flanks would gain the time they would require to cut acroſs our rear, and prevent our retreat to the town. Any attack made from Bristol or Howland's ferry, will be false, and intended to amuse us, while troops land behind us; for we cannot suppose that the Rebels will attack several Redoubts defended by British troops, and fight their way the whole length of the Island, when they have it in their power to land within 3 miles of our Lines, under cover of the French ships, and have a Battalion at most to oppose them. It is probable their plan is, to make two principal landings, one on the E. side near Holmes's, and the other on the W. side near Stoddard's. The position of the French ships in the paſsages seems to favor this opinion. It is probable a false attack would be made about two hours before daybreak on our advanced posts at Bristol-ferry, Common-fence, and Howland's bridge, which would take off our attention from the principal attacks, which would land about day break, and immediately endeavor to form acroſs the Island, and poſseſs the roads leading to town. Their having the entire command of the water renders this very practicable; and the consequences are obvious. The two Regiments at Windmill-hill dare not quit their post without the utmost hazard; and before the whole could be aſsembled in order to retire in a body to Newport, the Enemy on the E. & W. sides would be in poſseſsion of the position they intended to take; and the General would not have time, nor could he venture, to move with any considerable part of the troops from the town to take a post to cover our retreat. Our situation will appear more dangerous and critical if the French fleet should at the same time force their entrance into the harbour, and make an attack on the town.

We may generally form a judgement of the Enemy's intentions by what is obviously his interest to do. In this case it is to divide our force, if poſsible cut off a part of it, and to accelerate the reduction of Newport. Our great object should therefore be, to collect our force in due time, which will render us formidable, give us confidence, and enable us to make every poſsible effort to protract the defence of the post committed to our charge. Every hour we keep the Enemy off is of the utmost consequence; as it gives time to Lord Howe to collect his force and appear before the Enemy's fleet; and we all have such confidence in His Lordships zeal and abilities, that we are satisfied he will do all that is poſsible for the relief of this place, upon which so much depends. Should we, by injudicious measures, or a weak defence, fall into the power of the Enemy before he has done what is poſsible for our relief, we muſt lose our honor for ever.

8th Augt 1778 — All perfectly quiet laſt night. The Moon shone clear, and we could have easily perceived any movements of the Enemy's boats, had they been made.

Very thick at Sea this morning. Wind S. W.

At 7 this morning we perceived another Encampment of the Rebels, to the Northward of Howland's ferry: nearly opposite the N. point of Commonfence Neck. There appears to be about three Battalions there. Many large Batteaux are paſsing this morning from Mount Hope, to Howland's ferry. Not leſs than 100 of them have been observed within these few days going into Wanton's Cove.

At 6 this morning the two French ships off the N. point of Connonicut got under way, and ſtood over between that Island and Prudence; about 8 they had worked down as far as Gold Island, when it was generally supposed they intended to proceed as far as the town to attack the N. Battery; but they soon after put about and run up the W. side of this Island, nearly as far as Dyer's Island; from whence they ſtood over again to Connonicut, and anchored about 10 o'Clock near the N. point, but on this side of it. There are two other Line of Battle ships in the Narraganset paſsage this morning.

The two Frigates in the Seconnet have made no movement since the day the Kingsfisher was burnt.

About 10 o'Clock the haze cleared away, and we could see the French fleet at anchor off the harbour, exactly in the same position in which they have been for some days. About 11 o'Clock they got under way with their heads to the Eaſtward, and the Wind about S. S. W. At 1 they tacked and ſtood as if intending for the Narraganset paſsage; but when they had reached so far as to have the harbour of Newport open, they bore away for it with a croud of sail. Every thing in all our Sea Batteries being prepared for their reception, about 3 o'Clock, the French Admiral, Count D'Estaing, in the Languedoc of 84 Guns, leading in, came within shot of Brenton's-point battery, when the Action began. The fire from the above Battery, and from those on Goat Island, & the North Battery, was kept up with great briskneſs, and returned by a heavy fire from the ships as they paſsed. It was soon perceived that the Enemy did not mean to bring up againſt any of our Batteries; for upon getting within the Dumplins, they kept close over to the Connonicut shore, and ſtood up the harbour between that Island and Gold Island, and about 5 o'Clock they all anchored in a line under the Connonicut shore. The neareſt Ship anchored about 3 miles from the N. Battery. It was conjectured that the sight of the Maſts of the ships sunk in front of Goat Island, deterred them from bringing up off that Island.

The fire from the Batteries and the ships was prodigious, and formed a very grand Scene, even to us who were on the Northern part of the Island, at a diſtance of about 7 miles. Notwithſtanding the fire of 8 Ships of the line, not one man was hurt on our side, nor was the smalleſt damage done to any of our Guns or Batteries.

No particular damage could be observed on board the French ships, except that the Foreyard of one of them was shot down; and the Halliards of the Admiral's Ensign being shot away, the Colours of that ship were for a short time down. The ships were ſtruck many times from our Batteries, particularly that on Brenton's point.

The Cannonade continued without any intermiſsion for an hour and a quarter.

It having been determined, that as soon as the French fleet came into the harbour, the troops at the N. end of the Island should be withdrawn, even though there should be no appearance of an attack from the Rebels, orders were accordingly given for it, and were received by General Smith at Quaker hill at 4 o'Clock, who immediately sent orders to Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Campbell, commanding at Windmill-hill to spike the two Iron Guns in the Redoubts, withdraw the advanced poſts, and retire with the 22^{d} Regiment to Quaker hill and join the 43rd giving orders to the 38th to join the Landgrave's Regiment at Turkey hill. These orders were executed, but it was half paſt 6 in the afternoon before the troops got in motion from Quaker-hill and Turkey-hill towards Newport.

During our stay on Quaker hill this day, we saw several Corps of Rebels encamping on the Eaſtern shore of The Seconnet. One Regiment encamped on the left of the one which was poſted on the W. side of Wanton's Cove; another about a mile farther to the Southward; and a third, of considerable ſtrength, about half way between Howland's-ferry and Fogland. These movements, combined with that of The French fleet, seem to indicate their intention to make a joint attack very soon; probably toMorrow night, in hopes of cutting off part of the troops from the town. It is therefore evidently proper that we should withdraw in time, and collect our whole force for the defence of the position without the Town, where we may bid defiance to any attempts they may make for ten or twelve days at least.

Previous to the movement of the Troops from Quaker hill and Turkey hill, a Captain and 50 men of The Landgrave's Regiment were sent to take post on the height above Lawton's Mill on the W. road, which is a very strong post, and Commands that road.

The position of the troops under Genl Smith was at this time as follows: — 22d and 43rd Regiments on Quaker-hill; 38th and The Landgrave's, on Turkey hill; — The Flank Companies at Fogland; The Chaſseurs at Bowler's house; and the 54th Regiment at the Blacksmith's on the E. road.

The order of march was as follows, The right Column on the E. road was composed of the 43rd and 22d; the last Company of the 22d forming the Rear Guard. At the Blacksmith's they were joined by the Flank Companies from Fogland, the Chaſseurs from Bowler's, and the 54th from thence the Column was composed of the 43rd, 54th, 22d, & Chaſseurs, the Flank Companies forming the Rear Guard. The left Column, on the West road was composed of the Landgrave's, and 38th Regiment. When they paſsed Lawton's-Mills, the detachment posted there formed the rear Guard. About half past 8 o'Clock the two Columns joined near Irishe's, from whence they marched within the lines to the several posts which had been previously assigned them, where they lay on their arms.

Tho' the Rebels must have observed the Guards withdrawing from the advanced posts, and the Columns moving off from Quaker-hill and Turkey-hill, we could not perceive any movements among them in consequence thereof, or that any of them landed upon the Island while we lay on Quaker hill. Neither did any of them appear, or was there a shot fired during our march.

Soon after the French fleet anchored within the harbour, the General gave orders for all the houses and buildings within reach of our Guns in the Redoubts of the outer line, to be set on fire; which was accordingly done, and about 20 were burnt.

While the French were coming in, orders were given by The Commodore to scuttle and sink The Flora & Faulcon; the former between the Long wharf and Goat Island, and the latter off the S. E. end of Goat Island.

The Grand Duke Transport, formerly an East Indiaman, was run on shore between Goat Island and the N. Battery; and in a very inconsiderate manner set on fire, tho not further than 20 yards from the Wharfs, and near Storehouses in which a quantity of provisions and other stores still remained. She burnt with great violence, and greatly endangered that part of the town. Parties of the troops were employed most part of the night in preventing the adjacent buildings from catching fire.

The burning of the houses and the ship, the sinking of our only remaining Frigates, the sight of the Enemy's fleet within the harbour, the retreat of the Troops within the lines, and the dismay and distreſs so strongly impreſsed upon the Countenances of the Inhabitants, who concluded that the Rebels were on the point of landing, and that their lives and property were in the utmost danger, formed altogether a very extraordinary Scene.

A number of men from the French ships were put on shore on Connonicut soon after they anchored.

Parties of our Seamen have been employed in throwing down the Stone walls and fences in front of our Encampment.

9th Augt Fine weather. Wind S. S. W.

All quiet last night, and no appearance of the Rebels this morning. The French Fleet at day break in the same position they were after coming in yesterday. Many small craft plying about in the Narraganset paſsage. Some small veſsels in the Bay. One or two of them came down as low as Codrington's Cove; but a few shots being fired at them from Tomini hill; they went off.

The troops employed this morning in pitching their tents, and aſsisting, with all the Carriages that could be got, in removing provisions and Stores to the upper part of the town.

About 12 o'Clock a fleet hove in sight to the Southward; 10 Sail of large ships were first discovered. The number encreased continually until half past one, when 35 sail, large and small were counted, standing directly for the harbour with a fair wind. At 1 o'Clock it became certain that the fleet in sight was that under the Command of Lord Howe from New York; and Lt Knowles, Agent of Transports, with Captain Lumm, and Captain Barry, in two boats, were immediately sent off to give Lord

Howe information relative to the situation of the Enemys fleet, and the ſtate of the Garrison; and also to know what aſsiſtance he wished to have from the Garrison, and how we could co-operate with him. The spirits of the whole Garrison were at this period elevated to the higheſt pitch, being convinced that if the wind continued in the same point, (and the Fleet was then advancing faſt) the British fleet would enter the harbour before night, and that we should be the joyful spectators, or perhaps aſsiſt in the deſtruction or Capture of the French fleet.

From the firſt appearance of the British fleet, the French were busily employed in re-embarking the men they had landed on Connonicut. Many signals were made by The French admiral, and his ships began to place themselves in a position to oppose the greateſt poſsible fire upon the line of entrance to the harbour.

One of the French ships went out of the Naraganset laſt night or very early this morning, but on discovering the English Fleet, she crouded all the sail she could make and returned back into that paſsage.

The wind continued favorable for Lord Howe 'till towards Evening, when it died away. Appearance of a great Thunder Storm gathering in the N. W. quarter.

At 6 in the Evening the British Fleet came to, and anchored about 7 miles S. W. from the entrance of the harbour.

We are now Spectators of two powerful fleets at anchor within a few miles of us, whose operations will probably decide our fate. That of the Enemy conſiſting of 12 Ships of the Line and 4 Frigates, in actual poſseſsion of the harbour. The British fleet blocking up the harbour, inferior with respect to size of the ships, but so superior in Actual force and spirit, that we have no doubt Lord Howe will atchieve a glorious Victory if he can either force his way into the harbour, or induce the Enemy to fight at Sea.

Very few of the Rebels appeared opposite our poſts to day. Some Cannon shot were fired at a few ſtragglers who came within reach of Irish's and Green-end Redoubt.

Several Stacks of hay in the fields neareſt our lines were brought in to day, and a small Magazine formed of them near the Barrier Redoubt.

The General judging it prudent to guard againſt any attempt which the Rebels might be induced to make this night; and it being highly probable that something extremely consequential will happen toMorrow, if the wind proves favorable for Lord Howe, he gave orders for the Regiments of the 2d Line, to march at Sunset, and form in the rear of those of the 1st; and for all the troops to be ready to take their arms on the shorteſt notice.

The Troops are now encamped as follows: Vizt — The 1st Line is composed of the 22d, 43rd, Brown's, Fannings, 1st Anspach, Huyne's, & Landgrave's. The 22d, 43rd, & Browns on the right of the great road, having the General Hospital in their front. Fanning's behind Banniſter's Redoubt, 1st Anspach in Bannister's Orchard, fronting North. Huyne's, & Landgraves in the same line, on the left of the road, with thier left to Tomini hill.

The 2d Line, 38th, & 54th with their right to the lines near Eaſton's house; their left to The Library. 2d Anspach, their right to the Eaſt end of Brindleys ropehouse, left to the Windmill. Ditfourth & Bunau, their right towards the Barrier Redoubt, & left to Durfee's house.

The flank Companies on the right of the Road, opposite Pease's farm. Chaſseurs on the left near the harbour. The Seamen on the left of the road without the Barrier Redoubt. Marines on the opposite side of the road.

The Park of Artillery without the Barrier Redoubt between the two roads.

Detail of Guards mounted in Newport 9th Augt 1778

	C	S	S	C	D	P
Main Guard	1	1	2	3	2	40
South End	.	1	1	1	1	25
North End	.	1	1	1	1	25
North Battery	.	1	1	1	1	25
Total	1	4	5	6	5	115

Lieut Colo Wightman's Provincials, conſiſting of about 80 men in all, have been appointed to do duty with the Park of Artillery.

The headquarters are fixed at Bliſses house, the firſt on the road to Green-end.

All our Batteries are manned by Seamen, who have tents made of Sails at all their poſts.

The General has ordered fresh provisions to be iſsued to the Garrison 'till further orders, at the rate of a pound p^r^ man per day.

10th Aug^t^ At day break the British fleet discovered at anchor nearly in the same position as yeſterday Evening.

Thick weather. Wind N. W, and appearance of rain.

Several movements observed in the French fleet. D'Estaing appears to be making a disposition to receive Lord Howe, in case the wind should admit of his coming in; and is endeavoring to place his ships in such a manner as to bring the greateſt fire poſsible upon the line of Entrance, which the Channel he is in will permit.

Many large flat boats and launches are paſsing between Cononicut and the French fleet, & bringing off men.

Captains Lumm and Barry returned early this morning from on board Lord Howe's ship, and inform us that the force under his Command is, 8 Sail of the line, (74 & 64), 4 ships of 50 Guns, 2 of 44, 6 Frigates, 3 fire ships, 2 Bombs, and 4 Gallies. The whole remarkably well manned, in the higheſt spirits, and moſt anxiously wishing for an opportunity to Signalize themselves in the service of their Country againſt its ancient and perfidious Enemy. The 23rd Regiment, or Royal Welch Fusiliers, is on board The fleet, having voluntarily offered to serve on board on this Occasion as Marines.

Lord Howe told Captain Lumm he was determined to engage the Enemy; from which we may conclude he is confident of succeſs; otherwise he would not risk an Action in which a defeat would be attended with the moſt fatal consequences.

The French fleet appears to be composed of two ships of 90 Guns, 9 of 74, and 1 of 50.

About 8 o'Clock the wind shifted round more to the Northward, and a Signal was made by the French Admiral to cut or slip; soon after which some of the Ships were under way. The wind moderate at N. E. We at firſt imagined their intention was to bring up againſt our batteries; but we soon found they were determined to go out to engage the British fleet. As soon as Lord Howe perceived they were in motion, he weighed, and the British fleet lay to. The French fleet having all got in motion, a Ship of 74 Guns led out, and was followed by D'Estaing, and 9 other ships in a line ahead; — (The other ship went out by the Narraganset paſsage). Our Batteries being all prepared and well manned, the action commenced about half paſt 8, by a shot from the North Battery at the headmoſt ship. As the ships advanced, the fire became more general from all our batteries; but as the Enemy had no intention of bringing up againſt them, they kept as near as they could to the Connonicut shore, so that our Guns could not do the desired execution on them: — however, many of our shot ſtruck them, especially from Brenton's point battery, which being neareſt to them did great service, altho' the effect could not be perceived.

The French ships kept up a prodigious fire as they paſsed our batteries. I am certain they did not fire leſs than 2,500 Cannon shot, but it was done with so little judgement or effect, that not a drop of blood was drawn on our side nor a Gun damaged. Many of their shot fell into the town, and one ship elevated her guns so high as to throw shot of 48 l^{bs} 200 yards beyond the Library which is situated on the higheſt ground above the center of the town. Some of the French ships fired in a very irregular and hasty manner, 14 or 15 Guns almoſt at the same inſtant, so that their shot fell wide of the object: Others were more regular, beginning forward, and firing progreſsively aft.

The fire from our Batteries was kept up with great spirit, perseverance, and judgement, until the whole of the Enemy's fleet had got out. The Cannonade continued for very near an hour and a quarter. As soon as the ships had paſsed our batteries, they crouded all the sail they could set, even to Studding Sails and Royals, and ſtood directly for the British Fleet. As soon as Lord Howe saw them coming out, he made sail, and ſtood away, S. S. E, but not with a preſsed sail, few of his ships having more than their topsails, and Fore sail set. His reasons for thus retiring before the French fleet are not known to us, but from a knowledge of his abilities and approved spirit, every person is convinced he is acting the part of an experienced and able Seaman. Lord Howe's knowledge of his own force, and that of the Enemy, together with that of the advantages and disadvantages of Winds, Tides, Currents, and the adjacent Coaſts, is so perfect, that we, who are not competent Judges of these matters, muſt by no means pretend to censure any part of his conduct.

'Tis evident that it would be highly imprudent to engage with such powerful ships without the advantage of the Wind, particularly when a great part of his dependence is on his fire ships.

I believe there never was a Naval engagement on which so much depended, so that which is now likely to take place.

The whole Army were anxious Spectators of the motions of both fleets, and of the Cannonade, which formed a very interesting scene. We were in constant expectation, during the time the French ships were going past our Batteries, of seeing a Mast or Yard shot away, or some material damage happen to them, which would have been of great advantage, but they did not appear to have received any injury.

It must be acknowledged that the French Admiral acted in a spirited manner, for notwithstanding the British Fleet off the harbour appeared to be much more numerous and powerful than his own, he with great expedition made use of the first favorable wind that offered, and put to Sea, under the fire of our Batteries, in order to bring them to Action. Had one of his ships been damaged so as to prevent her from going to Sea, it is probable we might have destroyed her, and Lord Howe's superiority would have been decided.

The French Frigates and the Armed Brig remained in the Seconnet paſsage.

Strength of The Army. 10th Augt 1778

Corps	Fd Offcs	Capts	Subs	Serjts	Corpls	Drumrs	Privates
22d	2	5	9	21	24	14	348
38th	1	2	10	22	24	12	260
43rd	1	3	11	22	24	14	400
54th	3	5	12	19	24	15	432
Flank Companies		2	8	12	10	10	194
Marines		1	5	8	8	4	145
Seamen							635
Landgraves	2	2	12	29	30	12	458
Ditfourth	3	3	11	25	30	11	466
Huyne	3	5	11	25	25	12	434
Bunau	2	3	11	26	26	13	443
1st Anspach	2	4	9	23	22	13	339
2d Anspach	2	4	11	22	22	15	351
Chaſseurs		2	2	6	5	4	135
Brown's	2	3	11	24	24	14	188
Fannings	3	7	14	28	25	16	322
British Artillery	1	1	6	3	4	3	100
Total	27	52	153	315	327	182	5650

The Fleets were out of sight about Sunset, ſtanding S. S. W. the French having previously crouded sail, and appeared to have gained upon the British.

The troops were employed this day in cutting down the Orchards near our Redoubts, and forming the trees into an Abbattis along our whole front, from Green-end to Tomini hill.

The Seamen in the different Redoubts & Batteries in the front line having thrown away a great deal of Ammunition unneceſsarily during these two days, in firing at almoſt every person who appeared on the opposite heights, the General gave an order this day that they should not fire until a body of men appeared in arms, or the Enemy were discovered breaking ground.

The Signal for an alarm is fixed to be three Guns fired from Tomini hill, and a Blue Ensign hoiſted under the Red, on the Flagg staff there.

11th Augt Cloudy, thick weather. Wind N. E.

No part of either fleet in sight this morning. Some persons imagined they heard a great Cannonade at Sea, from 9 laſt night till One this morning.

The troops are employed on the Abbattis, and in otherwise ſtrengthening our position.

A Detachment of a Field Officer and 300 men from the Army, followed by all the Waggons, marched out at Irish's Redoubt this morning, and advanced about three Miles on the Eaſt road, where the troops took poſt, and covered the Waggons which were employed in bringing in a quantity of hay from the adjacent fields.They returned in the afternoon, having seen very few of the Rebels, and met with no opposition.

The troops of the 1st line took up a new position this afternoon, and encamped as follows. 22d Regiment, close on the right of the great road, their left near the General Hospital. 43rd on the left of the road, front to the General Hospital. Brown's & Fannings, on the left of the 43rd with the same front. The two Battalions of Anspach, Huynes, & Landgrave's, with their right to the West road, & left to Tomini-hill. The other troops are poſted as follows: 38th & 54th their right to the old lines near Eaſton's Redoubt, their left near the two Windmills. Ditfourth's and Bunau's, with their right near the Barrier Redoubt, and left towards Brindley's rope house. Flank Companies, near Bliſs's house, front to Weedon's-Mill. Chaſseurs, with their right to Tomini hill, and left opposite Malbone's Garden. Seamen, with their right to Pease's house, and left to the Barrier Redoubt. Marines, the same front, but on the opposite side of the road. Part of Artillery, right to Bliſs's house, & left to the great road.

About 7 this Evening four men on horseback, dreſsed like Officers, advanced along the West road within a small distance of an advanced post of the Anspach Regiment; and while they were intent on examining our situation, a party of the Anspachers surrounded and took three of them. The other escaped by the goodneſs of his horse. They were brought to Head quarters, where at first they pretended to be Officers, but at last acknowledged they were Privates in a Company of Volunteers from New Hampshire; that they came upon the Island only this morning, and were led by curiosity nearer to our posts than they imagined. They were well clothed, in green, faced with white. They were sent to The Provost, where the other Rebel Prisoners are secured.

Lord Howe having signified to General Pigot, through Captain Lumm, his opinion, that even in case of succeſs against the French fleet, it might poſsibly be considered as adviseable to withdraw the Troops from this Island, The General communicated this to Captain Lumm, Captain Barry, and me, this Morning: and directed us to go and examine the ground, and report to him our opinion how such a movement might be best put in Execution.

It appears to me, that in case the harbour should be entirely open to our shipping, and that we have nothing to guard against but the Military force of the Rebels in their present position, it would be neceſsary to construct two Redoubts capable of containing 100 men, and 3 Cannon each; One near the Windmills above Easton's pond, and the other near the Stone Windmill behind Headquarters, & near the Library; that ground forming an extreme good position against an Enemy advancing from the Northward. The heavy Artillery, Baggage, and all other incumbrances might previous to the Evacuation, be embarked from the Wharfs in Newport. The transports supposed to lie to the Westward of Goat Island. That part of the work on Goat Island which faces the town, should be furnished with some Iron Cannon to keep the Enemy at a distance. When it was judged proper to begin to move, the troops in the advanced works should be withdrawn and take poſt in the two Redoubts, until the greateſt part of the troops were embarked. The embarkation might take place from the Long Wharf, the boats landing them on Goat-Island, from whence other boats might put them on board the ships. Or it might be effected by marching round to Brentons point. At the proper time, the rear guard might retire with the greateſt safety, even if the Enemy were apprized of the movement, by way of Brenton's neck, every part of which is capable of being defended to the laſt, and might embark at Brenton's point, Castle-hill-Cove, or even the extreme S. W. point, without danger. The wind and tides should correspond to render this retreat more secure. But at any rate I look upon it as certain, that altho the Enemy should oblige us to quit our present position, we are capable of disputing posseſsion of the Island with them; for, as I observed above, a very good position may be taken with our right to Eaſton's beach, and our left to the Stone Windmill, from whence it would be very difficult to dislodge us. The Barrier Redoubt should in this case be kept as long as poſsible. It is entirely commanded from the above position, and the taking it would be a work of much difficulty. A third position, in the laſt extremity, and infinitely the ſtrongeſt, is on Brenton's Neck, from which nothing but a Superior fleet, and a want of provisions could oblige us to retire.

If D'Estaing's Fleet should by any means obtain an advantage over Lord Howe's, our situation on this Island will certainly be dangerous, and we shall have nothing for it but to hold out until relieved, or if that fails, to make the beſt defence, and the beſt conditions poſsible. While we have only the Rebels to contend with, we are under no apprehensions.

12th Augt Heavy rain laſt night, with a ſtrong wind at N. E. Very heavy rain all day, and a ſtrong gale of Wind at N. E. Cold and disagreeable.

Two men deserted from us laſt night. One of them belonged to Fanning's Regiment, and on going off, fired at a Sentry of the 22d, who endeavored to prevent him, and wounded him. The other belonged to Huyne's Regiment. A Soldier of The Landgrave's Regt in attempting to desert was taken.

There was no appearance of any of the Rebel troops this morning. The difficulty they meet with in bringing over all the Carriages and Cattle neceſsary for transporting their Artillery, Provisions, Ammunition, Baggage, &c. &c., and the badneſs of the weather, are doubtleſs the causes of our not seeing them near us. It is poſsible they wait the result of the expected Action between the Fleets, before they venture to bring forward everything neceſsary for attacking us in form.

A Deserter came in from the Rebels this Morning. He says they have some troops encamped on Windmill hill, and some on Quaker hill, but that they do not amount to 5,000 in all, upon the Island, with some Field Artillery.

The General has come to a resolution of constructing a line within the Abbattis, along our whole front, and behind our Redoubts and Batteries, which will add much to the strength of our position, and afford cover to the troops in case of a Cannonade from the opposite heights.

We cannot be said to have any Outposts at present. On our right, our most advanced Sentries are at the edge of the Inundation at Green-end; and we send a patrole along Easton's beach as far as the Creek. In front of Irish's Redoubt, we have a Picquet of an Officer and 25 men where the two roads meet. There is another Picquet on the left, between the great road and Sheffield's house. These are hardly musquet shot from our Redoubts.

Each Regiment has a Picquet of an officer and 25 Men, who take post at night in the different Redoubts and Batteries along our front. The patroles from these Picquets advance about 200 yards in their front. The nature of the ground will not admit of our pushing our posts to any considerable distance.

The General had it in contemplation at one time this morning to march out with his whole force (except one Heſsian Reg^t and the usual Guards) and make a sudden attack on such part of the Rebel troops as might be found on the Island. I am confident an attack at this time, as it would be entirely unexpected, would be attended by complete succeſs; especially as, from the state of the weather, the Bayonet would be almost the only weapon that could be used, and would give us a decided superiority. I believe he gave up the idea upon reflecting, that as relief may be daily expected, either by means of the return of Lord Howe's fleet, or from New York, it might be thought imprudent to run any risque; as our own strength, now D'Estaing is gone off, is sufficient to keep the Rebels out for a considerable time.

13th Aug^t The Rain continued very heavy from 4 oClock yesterday evening, all last night, and all this day; with a very strong gale of Wind at N. E. The wind fell about 8 this Evening.

Most of the tents are blown down and torn to pieces; particularly those constructed by the Seamen of the ship's sails. Much damage is done to the Indian corn, great part of which is laid quite flat.

The troops are at present in a most uncomfortable situation, few of the Officers having a tent standing, and every thing belonging to the men being perfectly soaked with the rain.

We are under great apprehensions for the safety of Lord Howe's fleet. Some think they have been able to run into Sandy hook; others imagine they must have gone off to Sea, and must have suffered greatly, particularly the Gallies, which the Officers of the Navy say must have thrown their Guns overboard, or sunk. There is however a satisfaction in reflecting that the Enemy's fleet are likely to have suffered in the same, or rather a greater proportion, their ships being more unwieldy, and their Seamen leſs expert, than ours.

One favorable consequence attending this Storm is, that it will retard the Rebels greatly in bringing forward the Cannon, Stores, provisions, and other requisites for a siege. Their troops must also suffer from the inclemency of the weather, & being ill provided with Clothing, Blankets and tents, they will be apt to grow sickly and discontented.

Nothing could be done to our works today.

The General ordered another party of a Field Officer and 300 men, followed by all the Carriages, to go out yesterday Morning to bring in forage, but the inclemency of the weather induced him to Countermand it. They were again ordered to parade this morning, but were countermanded on account of the uncomfortable situation of the troops, and the Cattle being very much harraſsed.

The General having determined on constructing a line along our whole front, from the 10 Gun Battery above Green-end, to Tomini-hill, ordered a proportion of tools to be given to each Corps in the first Line, and a certain part of the work to be assigned to each Corps, to be finished by them as soon as poſsible. This line, or rather breastwork, is intended to give some cover to the Troops against a Cannonade, and enable them to take post nearer to the part which is to be defended. If time will permit it is to be formed into a regular line, 14 feet thick, with a

Ditch and Banquette. At present it is to be only 6 feet thick, and 4½ high. It is traced out, above 40 yards behind the Abbattis.

The General removed this day from Bliſs's house to his former quarters in Newport.

A great number of our Musquet Cartridges have been damaged by the bad weather.

The Inhabitants say they have not had so severe a Storm at this season of the Year for three or four years past. They generally have a gale of wind in the month of August, but seldom so violent. The Indian Corn which is at this season in its most luxuriant state, has suffered extremely by the Gale. The strength of the wind, and the weight of the rain, has laid many fields quite flat on the ground; and as it is impoſsible to raise it again, they fear it will not fill and ripen as usual.

14th Augt Fine weather after 9 this morning. Clear and warm. Wind S. E.

Three men of the 22d Regiment deserted last night.

Two Rebel Soldiers, driving an Ox-Cart, with three barrels of flour in it, came up to our advanced post on the road beyond Irish's last night, and were taken. They asked the Anspachers, who were upon duty there, if they were not French troops. It appears they had been desired by an Officer to keep on that road 'till he overtook them; and as they were entirely unacquainted with the Island, they fell in with our Sentries before they knew where they were.

A Rebel encampment appeared this day on this side of the Windmill South of Quaker hill. There appears to be about two Battalions there.

A few Rebels, in straggling parties, appeared on the opposite heights this morning. Some Cannon shot were fired at them from the Redoubts, but the object was too small, and the distance too great to have any effect.

There is no appearance of any considerable force nearer than the abovementioned Windmill.

This afternoon about 200 Rebels shewed themselves on the first height on the E. Road. Several shot were fired at them, some of which struck very near them, on which they turned off to their left of the road. They appeared to be nothing more than a reconnoitring party.

Five dead bodies, and part of a Wheel and Tiller rope, supposed to belong to one of the French ships, were found yeſterday on the shore of Brenton's neck.

The French frigates and the Brig, remain in the Seconnet passage. Since the departure of the French fleet, very few of the Rebel boats or small craft have appeared on the W. Side of the Island.

The New Hampshire Volunteers taken on the 11th Inſtant, got permiſsion from the General to have a flag of truce sent out with a letter to their Commanding Officer, requeſting that money and Clothes might be sent to them. The Serjeant who was sent out with the Flag, was conducted to Mr Varnum, a Brigadier General, who after receiving the letter, desired him to tell Lieutt Colo Campbell of the 22d Regiment, that he intended to be even with him for burning his house at Briſtol laſt May. He also desired his Compliments to Genl Pigot, and that he hoped to pay him a visit in a few days.

The Serjeant says they all appeared in great spirits, and seemed to make sure of reducing the place shortly.

15th Augt Fine weather. Wind E.

The Rebels ſtruck their Camp near the Windmill this morning. About 4 in the afternoon they began to encamp on our left of the E. Road, a small diſtance on this side of Giles Slocum's house, and about 3 miles from Banniſter's. About three Battalions pitched there. A Second line appeared soon after on the ground near the Blacksmith's where the 54th were encamped.

At 5 in the afternoon a considerable body of troops drew up on the heights near Wyatt's house on our right of the E. Road, and soon after began to encamp there. This Encampment is about two Miles & half from our Redoubts. In my opinion there are about 5000 men encamped at those places. They have pushed forward their advanced poſts to the Crest of Honeyman's hill (the height opposite to our right), and many Officers have come forward to reconnoitre our position. We cannot observe that they have any poſts near us on the W. Road. Some people appear on a height just beyond Genl Smith's late quarters at Redwoods, about 4 miles from Irish's Redoubt.

The General finding that the line does not go on so briskly as he had reason to expect from having directed each Corps to complete the part aſsigned to it, ordered a party of 300 men from the whole Army (being all for which entrenching tools can be furnished) to work at it. They began this day on the right, being the part most exposed. It is a matter of regret, and perhaps of blame, that we are not better supplied with entrenching tools, that we might finish the breastwork before the Rebels complete their batteries. The whole length of the line, from the 10 Gun battery above Green-end, to Tomini hill, is about feet.

An Abbattis was made this Morning acroſs Easton's beach from the front of the Redoubt to the edge of the pond.

The Marines took post this day in Tomini-hill, and encamped there. A Detachment of Seamen is also stationed there for the service of the Guns in that post.

Several of our men have deserted to the Enemy within these few days.

We learn from the last prisoners taken, that it is understood among the Soldiers of the Rebel Army, that a body of troops were landed from the French fleet to the Southward of the town, and that D'Estaing left them there when he went to Sea, in order to co-operate with the Rebels in the Siege of the town.

16th Augt Hazy weather this morning, which continued 'till 4 in the afternoon, when the wind changed from E., to the S. E, and brought in a thick fog.

No appearance of any veſsels at Sea. It was thought that a heavy gun was heard in the Offing last night.

It is probable that the late Storm drove the fleets far to the Southward, and that we shall not see any part of either for some days. The Officers of the Navy differ much in opinion as to the probable fate of the two fleets. However, they all agree that both must have suffered considerably from the effects of the Storm alone.

The Rebel Encampment appeared distinctly this morning. Their right appears to be at the height N. E. of Genl Smith's late quarters at Redwoods on the W. Road, from whence their line is continued, with some intervals, by Jepsons, to a rocky part of the E. Road, South of Giles Slocum's; and from thence along the heights, in a Southerly direction, by Wyatt's house, about a mile further, near to Cookes farm, called Whitehall. The extent of their Camp is about 4 miles. Some Regiments are encamped in a Second line, at the Blacksmith's, on the E. Road. Their advanced posts from thier left wing, are on Honeyman's hill. Those from thier right, come no further than Weaver's house on the W. road. Their Sentries are pushed forward within Cannon shot of our Redoubts.

The Rebels were observed at work at several places this day, particularly on the hill near Redwood's, where they appear to be constructing a Redoubt; and in front of a Brigade encamped near Slocum's. Several shot were fired to day at some of thier parties, and Officers, who came forward to reconnoitre.

The Abbatis along our front is now nearly completed. It extends from the 10 Gun Battery on our right, to the shore opposite Pest Island on the left; a distance of about One Mile and half.

The troops are employed on the line behind the Abbattis, but for want of entrenching tools it does not go on so briskly as could be wished.

Gen^{l} Losberg has had a Fleche made in front of Little Tomini-hill, by the two Heſsian Regiments on the left. Two 6 pounders were placed in it to day, and a detachment of Seamen stationed there to work them. These guns have a very good command of the ground from Codrington's Cove, round by Potter's chimneys, to the West Road.

That part of the line between Weeden's Mill, and Irish's house, was allotted this day for the 22^{d}, 43rd, Brown's, Fanning's, and the 1st Anspach. The distance 1372 yards, for about 1900 men. The 2^{d} Anspach, Huyne's, & Landgrave's, are posted on the remainder of the line, between Irish's and Tomini.

As there was a very thick fog this afternoon, and The Rebel Army has now taken its position opposite to us, the General thought proper to order the Picquets of the 1st Line to lie out this night. They consist of a Captain, Subaltern, & 50 men from each Regiment, (except Brown's, which being weaker than the others, furnish only an Officer & 20 men) and are posted as follows: 22^{d} at Weeden's Mill, with a Su^{b} and 20 detached to the Orchard above the Dams: — 43rd, in the sunken 5 Gun Battery to the right of Dudley's Redoubt: — Brown's, in the sunken 3 Gun battery between Dudley's, & Bannisters: — Fanning's, behind the Abbattis on the left of Bannistter's Redoubt: 1st Anspach, a little to the Right of Irish's Redoubt; — 2^{d} Anspach, on the left of Irish's, with a Sub & 20 advanced to the meeting of the roads: — Huyne's, in the Fleche in the front of little Tomini: — and, Landgrave's, about 200 yards on the left of little Tomini, fronting Sheffield's farm. A Picquet from one of the

Heſsian Regiments in the 2^d Line, is poſted on the left of the 10 Gun Battery above Green-end; and an Officer and 20 Chasseurs, in the Fleche on the left of Tomini hill. A Chain of Sentries is formed in front of these Picquets, and a patrole from each Picquet is to go every half hour along their front, at the diſtance of 150 or 200 yards, where practicable. The Battalion Guns are poſted in front, with the Picquets.

Orders given for the whole of the Army to lie dreſsed and accoutred, & the Artillery horses to be harneſsed; and the whole to be under arms in front of thier respective encampments, half an hour before day break, every morning, till further orders. The Vicinity and force of the Enemy, makes it neceſsary to guard againſt any sudden attack.

Near 600 Seamen, with a proportionable number of their Officers are ſtationed at the different batteries.

A Captain of the Navy is on duty every day, who visits all the poſts where the Seamen are ſtationed, and makes a report in writing to the General.

The Field Officer of the day of the 1st Line, is ordered in case of an alarm, to take poſt in Tomini hill. The Seamen and Marines in that poſt are ordered to report to him.

Four draft Oxen have been delivered to each Regiment, and two to each ship's Company, which they are to take care of and be answerable for, and to employ in carrying thier provisions.

The parties employed on the works, take thier Arms and Accoutrements with them, in case of there being any attack while they are employed on that duty.

As there is reason to expect that the Rebels from their numbers, may be induced to make a sudden attack upon our position, which is by no means so defensible as it might be made, the General has ordered communications to be made between all the Corps, and all impediments to be removed. He has also directed the Officers Commanding the Regiments in the 2^d Line, to reconnoitre the ground, so that they may be able to move thier Regiments in the moſt expeditious manner, wherever & whenever ordered.

Half a Gill of Rum, extra, is iſsued to each man employed on the working parties.

17th Aug^st Very thick fog all laſt night. Some rain about 6 this morning. Wind S. W.

All quiet during the night.

The fog did not clear up till 11 this day, when we perceived the Rebels had broke ground during the night, and had thrown up part of a small Redoubt on Honeyman's-hill, about 150 yards to their right of the Orchard. It appears a very trifling work, ill conſtructed and injudicially placed. It is faced with fascines, and does not appear to be above 10 feet thick. This Redoubt I call N° 1. Two shot were fired at it, as soon as it was seen. Their people quitted it immediately, and we fired no more. They also began a trench from their left of N° 1, to the high road from Honeyman's hill to Green-end, and continued to work at it all day. Some other works appear in front of thier Camp, but they are only works of defence.

Honeyman's Orchard near which the Rebels have broke ground, and some rows of trees in front of it, were unavoidably left ſtanding when we retired within our lines, in consequence of having so many things of more importance to attend to. They now afford some cover for the Enemy, and prevent us from viewing exactly the works they are about.

We are busily employed on our line, and particularly on our right, as the Rebels are carrying on their approaches that way. Our parties are now ordered to work during the night. We have only 300 men employed, and they are to be relieved at 4, 9, 2, 7, & 12 oClock.

In order to prevent the Seamen and Soldiers who are ſtationed in the Redoubts and Batteries, from ſtraggling from their poſts under pretence of fetching water. The General has ordered the Deputy QrM^{r} General to employ Carts in bringing hogsheads of Water from town, every day to all the poſts.

It is with the greateſt difficulty the Seamen in the Batteries can be reſtrained from keeping a conſtant fire from all the Guns, even without having any material object to fire at. Their waſte of ammunition is very great, at a time when our fire can have very little effect; and the General has given orders againſt it. He has also ordered that the Officers of the Navy ſtationed in the several Redoubts and Batteries, shall have the Command of the Seamen and Guns, and The Military Officers the Command of the troops.

The Order of Battle of The Army was fixed upon this day. Major General Prescott is to Command the 2^{d} line; and Brigadier Gen^{l} Smith the right wing, & Maj^{r} Gen^{l} Losberg the left wing of the 1ſt Line.

18th Augt Fog all last night. Wind S.

Everything quiet during the night.

Three Anspachers and one Heſsian deserted.

Our parties work all night at the line.

As soon as the fog cleared off this morning, the Rebels were discovered hard at work on a large work on their left of the road, in a line with Honeyman's Orchard. It appears to be intended for a Battery of five Guns. Our Batteries immediately opened upon it, and continued to fire occasionally during the day. The Rebels however continued to work, throwing themselves down when they saw the flash of a Gun, and getting up again as soon as the shot struck or paſsed. Many shot struck the work and we think some damage must have been done. At any rate, our fire has retarded it. I shall distinguish this work by the name of Nº 2.

The Rebels had also during the night begun upon a Battery for 5 Guns about 100 yards N. E. of Nº 1; and it appeared this morning to be in great forwardness, the embrazures being plainly discernable. Such of our Guns as bore best upon this work, Nº 3, kept a fire upon it all day with very good effect, so that the workmen were frequently obliged to desist.

The Rebels have not done anything more at Nº 1, and appear to have abandoned it. But last night they began a trench from it to communicate with Nº 2. They worked at this, and the trench towards the road most of the day, tho fired at from those Guns which we could bring to bear on them.

The distance of Nº 1 & Nº 2, is too great for us to do any considerable execution on them, most of our Guns being 12 pounders only, and obliged to be elevated near 6 Degrees. Nº 2, and Nº 3 appeared almost finished by sunset, so that it is probable they will bring the Guns into them tonight, and open tomorrow, in order, by firing at our encampment, most of which in its present situation is within their reach, to oblige us to remove it farther back.

About 200 Rebels took post last Evening at Sunset, at Weaver's house on the W. road, apparently for the security of their right flank. This house is about a mile from Irish's Redoubt, and at least half that distance from the water side.

It appears by the operations of the Enemy that they intend to make their principal attack upon our right, by way of Greenend. They certainly can bring thier Batteries nearer on that side; but the more they advance with thier approaches, the more our ground commands them. We are strong there, and our right is also defended by a great part of the old lines near the town, and the Redoubts in them. Thier present object therefore appears to be to force us to remove our Camp farther back, and farther from the ground we have to defend, which will oblige us to have greater numbers on duty in the lines and Redoubts. Indeed our Encampment is so much exposed to thier fire from Honeyman's hill, that should they Cannonade it, we must move further back.

The Rebel Camp appears in the same state as yesterday.

Our working parties are employed on the line, which is finished (6 feet thick & 4½ high) from the 10 Gun battery as far as Bannister's Redoubt.

The 10 Gun Battery on our right was constructed entirely with a view to defend the upper and narrow part of Easton's pond, supposed to be fordable for about 400 yards from the Green-end road; in consequence of this, not one of the Embrazures bears on the Rebel work N° 2. At present the Seamen at this Battery have dragged three of the Guns back on the ground behind, and as that is higher, they fire over the Merlon's of the Battery at the Rebel Work. This may do while the Enemy have no guns mounted, but no longer; so that as soon as the Rebels open thier batteries, our fire from the 10 Gun battery must cease.

Several guns were heard in the Offing last night, and a Signal was made on Brenton's neck this afternoon for some veſsels being in sight; but the fog came in so thick about 5 o'Clock, that nothing more of them could be discovered.

The road near Green-end, and all the avenues to the town on that side, were filled up as much as poſsible this Evening by felling trees, and throwing other obstructions in the way, in order to retard the Enemy's approaches in that quarter.

It seems rather extraordinary that the Enemy make no appearance of carrying on any operations by way of Connonicut. As we have no Water force, they have nothing to apprehend from us on that side: On the contrary, as they have a number of boats and small craft, if they were to poſseſs that Island with about 1,000 men, and make a shew of landing near the town, or on Brenton's Neck at a proper opportunity, it would oblige us to strengthen our posts on that side, and keep a part of our force in readineſs to repel any attack they might make from thence.

If the Rebels were to conſtruct a Battery for a few heavy guns on the Dumplins, it would greatly incommode our Redoubt at Brenton's point, and be of material service to them in obſtructing the entrance of any veſsels intended for our relief. Notwithſtanding all the advantages they would derive from making only the shew of operation from Connonicut, they appear perfectly quiet there, as well as on our left, where the ground is favorable for an attack.

I think a landing near Dyer's house, beyond the N. Battery, very practicable. Such an attack would embarraſs us much; and as they have a number of boats about Stoddard's landing they might come from thence, after dark, with great ease, and without much danger of discovery. We have some boats that row Guard at night in the harbour and towards Peſt-Island, but little dependance is to be placed on their performing this duty with ſtrictneſs and conſtancy. Great part of our security conſiſts in the want of enterprize on the part of the Enemy.

19th Augt 1778. Thick fog all laſt night. Wind S.

All quiet during the night.

Two men of Col° Fanning's Regiment were sent out laſt night to endeavor to bring in a prisoner from whom some information might be obtained of the ſtrength, position, and intentions of the Enemy. They succeeded, having surprized and brought off a Sentry, a man of Webb's Regiment. They received a reward of 50 Dollars for this service.

The account this fellow gives is, that the numbers of the Enemy on the Island are very considerable, as 23,000 Rations are iſsued daily by the Commiſsary. The Army is composed principally of the Militia of Maſsachusett's Bay, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, with ten Continental Regiments from Gates's Army, and a Regiment of Canadians. Many of the Regiments of Militia are hutted, and others are in the houses and barns, being unprovided with tents. They usually receive two days fresh, and one days salt meat at a time. Sometimes they receive hard bread, but moſtly Flour. The Army is supplied with Cattle from Connecticut. Every thing wanted by them for the Expedition is brought by land to Howlands ferry and from the N. end of the Island by Oxen. They have a numerous Artillery; 32, 24, and 18 pounders. The Indian Corn, and whatever else they find on the Island, and want, they use. About 3000 men are employed daily on the works. It is reported in their Camp that the French fleet is cruizing off Block Island. There are many General Officers with the Army: vizt, Sullivan (who Commands), Green, Varnum, Cornell, Hancock, Fayette, Tyler, and Sherburn. This man can give no satisfactory account of their position, or where they intend to make their principal attack.

Our parties are still employed on the line.

A Rebel Galley was perceived at anchor in Codrington's Cove this morning, as soon as the Fog cleared off. She was immediately fired at from Great & little Tomini, struck several times, and obliged to go off.

At 8 this Morning when the fog cleared away from the heights, the two Batteries of the Rebels appeared completed. They began very soon after to fire from that on their left: first from one Gun only, but soon after from four, (18 pounders). A few of the first shots were directed against our 10 Gun battery, one of which going over it, went nearly as far as the Camp of the Flank Companies near Bliſs's house; and striking a hut in which a Soldier of the 45th Light Infantry was mending his shoes, it unfortunately took off one of his legs. The Enemy's fire was principally directed against the General Hospital (Dudley's house) and the Camp behind it. Two shot struck the house, nine fell into the Camp of the 43rd Regt and several others into that of Brown's; but fortunately no other damage was done than killing a horse, and breaking some firelocks in one of the Bell tents. The Rebels ceased firing about 1 o'Clock, except a few single shots at intervals during the remainder of the day. They worked all day on the trench from N° 1, to the road. A brisk fire was kept on their batteries & the Trench, from 10 Guns in our works which bore on them, and we think with some effect, the guns being in general well pointed, and many of the shot striking the works, particularly the Battery N° 2: but as the Guns we have mounted are mostly 12 prs only, the effect was not so great as it would have been with Guns of a larger Calibre.

The distance of the Enemy's battery N° 2, from the Barrier Redoubt taken from repeatedly observing the flash of their guns and the report, by a stop watch, is calculated to be 2855 Yards.

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It being observed that the upper part of the Enemy's approach from N° 1, would be Enfiladed by a Gun placed in our line near the Windmill, and an Embrazure was made there, and a 12 p^{r} brought into the place this afternoon, which fired 11 Shot with good effect.

A Soldier of the 54th Reg^{t} deserted last night from Easton's beach. We have no deserters from the Enemy. The hopes they have of obliging us to surrender (in which they are very sanguine) deters any of those who may be inclined to desert, from attempting it.

I fear we are at present almost wholly without intelligence of the Enemy's real strength, situation, or intentions. All the Inhabitants of the adjacent Country are our Enemies, and the difficulty of getting in is too great to induce any person to come in with intelligence. I am inclined to believe we do not pay liberally for it.

Irish's house was pulled down this day, as it stood in the way of our batteries in that part of the line: and being without the line might afford shelter to the Enemy in case of an attack.

A large Ship was seen off the harbour at 3 o'Clock. As the weather was clear and the wind fair, we have no doubt if she had been a friend, she would have come in. The winds have been so fair of late, and the foggy weather has been so favorable for vessels coming to us with information from the Commanders in Chief, that we are much surprized at not having had any accounts whatever from either of them. Tis now ten days since the French fleet went out of the harbour; and the latest accounts from Lord Howe and Gen^{l} Clinton were the day before.

The French frigates remain at anchor in the Seconnet passage.

It having been found from the Enemy's fire this day, that almost every part of the Encampment of the first line was within reach of their shot, the General ordered all the Corps in it to change thier position this Evening. In consequence of which The Flank Companies encamped without the Barrier Redoubt, fronting Tomini hill; The 22d, 43rd, Brown's, and Fannings on the right of the road to Tomini, fronting the General Hospital: The 1st and 2d Anspach, Huyne's & Landgrave's behind Tomini, with the same front. This position places them out of reach of the Enemy's Cannon, at present; but the troops are too far from the works which they are to defend; which in case of a Sudden attack from the Enemy might be attended with the moſt fatal consequences. In our present position, our lines are farther from our troops, than they are from the ground on which the Rebels might form thiers to attack. This inconvenience is almost unavoidable, as our poſt may be considered an Entrenched Camp, besieged by the Enemy, the ground of which does not afford shelter to the troops within the proper diſtance from the works.

I think the 22^d and 43^rd might have been placed with more advantage juſt without the old Line, on the right of the Barrier gate, where they would be full 2700 yards from the Enemy's battery N° 2. As that is not done, the Regiments of Ditfourth & Bunau should change thier position, and encamp close to that part of the Old line which is now in their rear, by which they would be more at hand to support the works, and that part of the New line near Green-end. An overture should be made in the old Line opposite the Center of each of those Regiments to facilitate thier movement to the support of the works. The present position of those two Regiments, with their rear to The Enemy, certainly appears a very unmilitary one.

20^th Aug^t Thick fog all laſt night, which did not clear off 'till 9 this morning. Wind S.

All quiet laſt night, except a few shots that were fired at a party that went out over Eaſton's beach to the opposite height, under the Command of Lieu^t Col° Bruce of the 54^th Regiment, to discover the position of the Rebels on that side. The party returned without any loſs, and without having been able to discover what poſts the Enemy have in that quarter.

Our people were employed laſt night in conſtructing a Battery for three Guns on that part of the line near the General Hospital. It was finished at 2 o'Clock this afternoon. The Rebels did not fire at it: Indeed there was very little firing on either side this day.

The Rebels were this morning observed at work at two branches of an approach in the Meadow opposite Honeyman's house. Towards evening they had advanced to the lowermoſt trees in that Meadow, and appeared to be making a Battery in the Corner of it next the road.

The Rebels have got thier guns into N° 1, and fired a few shot from thence at our Batteries, but without any effect.

About 6 this afternoon about 40 Rebels took post at Potter's chimnies on our left, but some shots being fired at them from Little Tomini & Irish's, they went off.

We lost no men this day by the fire of the Enemy. Our troops at work on the Line, which is now extended within 200 yards of Great Tomini.

As soon as the Fog cleared away this morning, a Frigate, and two Sloops were discovered off the harbour, plying off and on. As they did not attempt to come in, we were certain they were not friends. About 1 o'Clock, 12 sail of large ships appeared, standing for the Island. At first we had great expectations of their being part of Lord Howe's Fleet, and were not without hopes of his having engaged and defeated The French Fleet; but about 2 o'Clock it was plainly discovered that they were French, and were a good deal damaged; two of them having Jury Masts, and one having lost her Bowsprit. They soon after shewed French Colours, and standing on, by 6 o'Clock they had got near their former station off Brenton's point, where they soon after anchored. Various opinions are formed of the fate of Lord Howe's fleet, and whether the apparent damage which the Enemy has suffered, has been occasioned by the late Storm, or is the effect of an Engagement. The general opinion seems to be, that as the Enemy's ships are all in sight, the damage has been the effect of the Storm; and that from the superior skill of the British Seamen, our fleet has not suffered so much, and will soon make its appearance. No idea is entertained that our fleet has been beaten, even if there has been an Action.

Clear afternoon, and no appearance of a foggy night. The weather for a Month past, has been more foggy than was ever remembered by any of the Inhabitants. The nights have been extremely uncomfortable, and the fogs so thick from 6 in the Evening 'till 8 in the morning, that it was difficult to see 50 yards. Everything was wetted by the fog as if there had been a heavy rain. We have not been able to see 3 leagues to Sea since the Storm until this day; and the Winds have been constantly from the S. & S. W.

Two 18 pounders were brought into the new 3 Gun battery this Evening.

The following appointments were made this day to the Brigade of Seamen, under the Command of Captain Brisbane; viz^{t}

Lieu^t^ Tho^s^ Bishop of the Marines, to act as Quarter Maſter:
M^r^ Beers Dunlop, as Adjutant, and
M^r^ Will^m^ Miller, as Surgeon General —

Lieu^t^ James Saumarez of the Navy, has been appointed Aid-de-Camp to Captain Brisbane.

Disposition of the Guards in the Redoubts
Ordered to take place the Evening of 20^th^ Aug^t^ 1778

	S	S	C	D	P
The Flank Companies to poſt	2	2	2	2	50
in *Green-end* Redoubt; from whence	1	1	1	1	20
are to be detached to take poſt at *Bliſs's house;* and will return to Camp at Sunrise, or as soon as the weather is clear.					
The 22^d^ & 43^rd^ to poſt, in *Dudleys Red^t^*	1	1	1	1	30
Brown's & Fannings to poſt in *Banniſter's*	1	1	1	1	30
The Heſsians & Anspacher's, to poſt in *Irish's*	2	2	2	2	50
of which	1	1	1	1	20
are to be detached to the meeting of the roads, which poſt will return to Camp at daylight, if clear.					
The Chaſseurs to poſt	1	1	1	1	20
in the *Fleche* on the left of Tominis hill.					

21^st^ Aug^t^ At 11 o'Clock laſt night an alarm was occasioned in Camp by the following circumſtance. A Sentry of the Landgrave's Regiment poſted on the left, fell asleep on his poſt. The patrole of the Picquet finding him so, some of the men took hold of and shook him to waken him, when concluding he was in the hands of the Rebels, he cried out loudly, Turn out! Turn out! and made a great noise, which being heard by a Serjeant of the Quarter Guard of the 2^d^ Anspach, he ordered the Drummer to beat, To Arms, which being the Signal of Alarm at night, moſt of the Regiments were immediately under arms. In a short time the cause of the Alarm was discovered, and the troops returned to their tents. Except the above, everything was quiet during the night; which was clear and ſtill.

Two Heſsians (one of the Landgraves, and the other of Huyne's) deserted laſt night. Immediately after each desertion was known, the Countersign was changed, as those men deserted from thier poſts.

Lieu^t^ Stanhope of The Navy went off laſt night at half paſt 9 oClock, with dispatches for Lord Howe and General Clinton at New York. He went from Eaſton's beach, in a light Whaleboat rowed by Six Seamen.

Clear day. Wind S.

The French Fleet at anchor off the harbour. They made no movement during the day.

It was expected as the Wind was fair, and the tide answered about 3 o'Clock in the afternoon, that they would have attempted to come in. All our Batteries towards the Sea were in readineſs, and everything prepared to oppose them. 50 men were sent to reinforce the Battery on Goat Island, 25 to the North Battery, and 25 to each of the Redoubts on Brenton's Neck.

The French have some small veſsels Cruizing off Block Island, supposed for the purpose of giving information of the approach of the British Fleet.

About 8 o'Clock this morning the Rebels began to fire from both thier Batteries. They have 4. 18 pounders in each, and in N° 1, they have a 5 and ½ Inch Mortar. They threw a shell from this Mortar at 7 o'Clock last night, which fell within a few yards of an Artillery store in the road near the General Hospital, where it burst, without effect. They have no doubt received information from some of our deserters, that stores are deposited there.

The Rebels fired briskly all day at our Redoubts and Batteries. The 4 Guns in N° 1, were almost entirely against Bannister's Redoubt. 24 Shot struck the Redoubt, and two shells fell on the parapet, but no damage was done. The fire of N° 2, was chiefly directed at the 10 Gun Battery. They damaged the work a good deal; but no person was hurt. Many shells were thrown by the Enemy, but most of them burst in the Air. One (the fuze of which fell out in its flight) was taken up near Bannister's Redoubt, and proves to be 5½ Inches. We had not a man hurt by the fire of the Enemy this day, altho they fired above 200 Shot and Shells.

We fired a great deal during the day; but, tho' most of the shot were well directed, the distance is too great and they are too much above us, to enable us to damage their works or dismount their guns. Their batteries are too distant to enable them to destroy our defences: they must therefore approach nearer, and construct other batteries within a leſser distance. Their approaches are at present within about 700 yards of Green-end Redoubt, and as they advance them, our fire should be directed at them. It is needleſs at present to fire at their batteries. We should reserve our fire until they advance nearer to us, for the nearer they come, the more we command them; and if we can preserve our defences they will find it a matter of great difficulty to advance farther down the hill.

No new works appear on the side of the Enemy, but they seem to intend running their Trenches acroſs the road, and erecting a Battery near Carpenter's house, which is a good situation.

Our Line was this day completed as far as Tomini hill, and two small Fleches were conſtructed 100 yards in front of that part of it between Tomini hill, and Irish's Redoubt.

Three 5½ Inch Mortars were placed this day in Green-end Redoubt, from whence the Rebel's approaches were plied briskly with shells, but without much effect, as moſt of them burſt in the Air. The Fuzes are damaged and worm eaten. They were brought from England in the year 1776 for the South Carolina Expedition; and tis probable were made some years before.

22^{d} Auguſt. Laſt night very fine till 11 oClock, when the wind Changed to the N. E. Thick weather towards Morning.

No appearance of the French fleet at day light. In the course of the day we learnt that they got under weigh about 12 oClock and ſtood away to the Southward. Tis highly probable they have had information of the approach of an English Fleet, and are endeavoring to get off the Coaſt, or into some secure harbour.

The Rebels worked hard laſt night, and completed a Battery (N^{o} 3) for four or five Guns in the corner of the meadow opposite Carpenter's house. They had also croſsed the road and advanced pretty far in erecting a Battery (N^{o} 4) in a line with Carpenter's house, about 300 [yards] lower down the hill than N^{o} 2. This Battery appears to be for 7 Guns. We fired a good deal during the day at both works. The Rebels did not fire much this day, but seemed anxious to finish thier new Batteries, at which they worked occasionally. I think it probable they are preparing to remove the platforms and Guns from the two upper Batteries into the two lower ones.

A party of the 22^{d} Reg^{t} under the Command of Lieu^{t} Handfield, Aide de Camp to Gen^{l} Smith went laſt night in a Whale-Boat to Cononicut, and brought off from thence one Eldridge an Inhabitant, who says that the Rebels have about 18,000 on this Island, moſt of whom are Militia of the adjacent Provinces engaged for Six weeks, three of which are expired. That they are almoſt tired of the Expedition, having at firſt concluded that with the aſsiſtance of the French Fleet, it would have been a short piece of busineſs.

With reſpect to the French fleet, he says it is reported that the Acquillon, a Frigate, is loſt, The Tonnant of 84 Guns, Miſsing, the Longuedoc much damaged, and the reſt of the Fleet a good deal shattered. There was no Engagement, but the French give out that they have taken the Senegal Sloop and the Thunder Bomb. The fate of the English Fleet uncertain. He says the French returned here in hopes of finding the place in poſseſsion of the Rebels, and that D'Estaing was much chagrined at finding otherwise, and so little progreſs made in the Siege. All the Sick Seamen the French had left on Cononicut were taken on Board. It is supposed the Fleet is gone to Boſton, or the Chesapeak to refit, and that they will not return here, as they expect the appearance of Lord Howe with the English Fleet.

From this Mans account we shall have little to apprehend from the Rebels, if they do not within a few days push thier operations with more spirit than they have hitherto done. In all probability we shall not be moleſted again by the French fleet, and we shall have to attend to our land defences only.

This Evening the Rebels brought 2 Guns into thier new Battery.

We have now 6 Small Mortars in the Redoubt at Green end, from which shells are continually thrown at the Enemys approaches, and at their new batteries.

23^{d} Aug^{t} Laſt night very fine. Many shells thrown during the night at the Enemys works.

Colonel Fanning, having obtained leave from Gen^{l} Pigot to go out with a part of his Regiment in order to beat up a Picquet of the Enemy poſted near Potter's Chimnies, marched out at Irishes Redoubt at half paſt One this Morning with 150 men: he advanced very near the Poſt without being discovered, then rushed in upon them, killed one man, and took two Prisoners: the remainder of the Picquet, having given their fire, ran off with the utmoſt precipitation. Col^{o} Fanning returned before day break without any loſs.

The Rebels began to fire from all their batteries this morning as soon as it was day light. They kept up a heavy fire all day from thier two new Batteries, as well as from the two firſt erected. They had this day 16 Cannon and 2–5½ Inch Mortars in Battery againſt us. Their fire was principally directed againſt the 10 Gun Battery, Green-end Redoubt, Banniſter's Redoubt, and the new 3 Gun battery on the lines. Some of these works, particularly the 10 Gun Battery, and Green-end Redoubt, were a good deal damaged before night; but we had not a Gun dismounted nor a man killed, by the whole of their fire this day: a few men were slightly hurt by Stones & Splinters. Many of their shot came as far as the Encampment of the 22d and 43rd Regiments near Tomini hill; others fell in the Camp of the Light Infantry to the right of the Barrier; but without effect. We fired at the Enemys works from 13 pieces of Cannon (12 & 18 p^{rs}) and 6 Mortars.

Nothing appears to have been done by the Rebels about Potter's chimnies. The Ground there is favorable for a Battery to annoy the encampment of the Heſsians behind Tomini hill; but as the ground between Potter's and our works is entirely open and Commanded by Tomini, they would find it very dangerous to advance approaches from thence.

In the Evening the Rebels were observed very busy on a new work on their right. It is on the firſt rising ground on thier left of the Eaſt road, & close to it. The diſtance is about 1300 yards from Irishes Redoubt. The form of it is yet uncertain: but I think it is intended to be a Redoubt to cover their right of the attack, and to enfilade a part of our Lines.

Our working parties were not employed this day, they worked laſt night in prolonging the line to the right of the 10 Gun Battery, and in repairing such parts of the other works as had been damaged during the preceding day.

An Inhabitant of Cononicut was brought off from thence laſt night by one of our parties. He can give no material intelligence respecting the Enemy's ſtrength or situation. He says that some sick Seamen and Marines belonging to the French fleet, who were left ashore on the Narraganset side, have received orders to proceed from thence to Providence. From this account it is highly probable that the French fleet intends going to Boſton.

If the French fleet should not be able to make their appearance again before this place; Gen^{l} Clinton will undoubtedly come to our relief, and probably have it in his power to make a ſtroke at the besieging Army.

An Officer and 20 Men from the Picquet of the 54th Regiment paſsed over Easton's beach before day this Morning, to the house of one Easton, on the hill beyond the beach, which house they burnt. They did [not] meet with any of the Rebels. This party went out without the orders or knowledge of the General, but by permiſsion of the Captain Commanding the Picquet of that Regiment: for which breach of discipline, both the Captain and the Subaltern were under arrest.

The ease with which this party penetrated to above a mile and an half from our works, to a post which the Rebels certainly should have occupied for the security of thier left, shews what little attention they pay to eſsential points, and what advantages might be gained over them by an Enterprizing Enemy. Their army being principally composed of the Militia of the Neighbouring provinces, drawn hastily together for the present service, are impreſsed with the Idea that we should be found an easy conquest; I am therefore confident that a Sudden and well conducted attack upon them with a Corps of well disciplined troops would be attended with the most complete succeſs. In our present circumstances however, when we may daily expect to be relieved by the appearance of a Fleet or an Army, it would be highly imprudent to risque any thing. Our plan is now to act on the defensive, and as much as poſsible to retard the Enemy in their approaches, and in erecting thier Batteries.

24th Augt 1778 The Rebels kept up thier fire until Sunset yesterday. Not a Gun was fired on either side during the night; but we threw several shells at thier nearest works.

Some of Our parties were employed last night constructing a Battery, on the line, to the right of the windmill, for 7 Guns (4, 24, & 3, 18 prs). It was nearly finished this Morning, but the platforms were not quite completed. The Guns are all ready at the Barrier Redoubt, and will be drawn in this night. Other parties were employed in repairing such damages as our works had sustained, in thickening the line, and in completing a line, or Epaulement, parralel to that on the left of Irishes, and at the distance of 16 yards from it, intended to secure it from a reverse fire, which from its direction it is exposed to.

The Rebels worked hard last night. They made an Epaulement of above 20 yards long to their right of N° 1, behind which they have placed their Mortars, except one of 13 Inches which they placed in N° 5. They also carried on an approach from their right of N° 3 about 50 yards in the adjoining Meadow. It is probable they will extend this trench as far as their new work (N° 5) at the East Road; and on a height near some Willow trees, about half way, erect a Battery to fire against Irishes and Bannister's Redoubts. This line will form a kind of Second parralel and will connect their works. The ground indeed, is lower than ours, but as they advance there are Situations proper for Batteries.

The Rebels directed their fire this day against Green End Redoubt, and the new 7 Gun Battery, but with very little effect. They threw 3, 13 Inch shells from N° 5, about 10 last night, one of which fell near Tomini hill, and another near Irishes. Some shot were immediately fired at No 5 from Irishes Redoubt, which struck their work, after which they threw no more shells from thence.

We are certain they were 13 Inch shells they threw, as we measured a Splinter of one of them taken up where it burst.

Should they bring several Mortars of the same size against us, they will incommode us greatly, as we have few, or no traverses in our works, most of which indeed, are to small to admit of such defences.

About 7 o'Clock this Evening, a Deserter came in on horseback to Irishes Redoubt. He says he is a Serjeant in Colonel Henley's Regiment, that the Rebels are in general much displeased with the dilatory manner in which the Siege is carried on; which is also displeasing to Sullivan, who proposed to storm our works a few days after they had landed, but was opposed by most of the other Generals, who were for proceeding in a more cautious and certain manner. That there are only 7 Battalions of Continental troops on the Island. The rest of the Army is composed of Militia and Volunteers. Most of the Militia were inlisted for 20 days only, and the time of many being nearly expired, they intend going home at the end of it, as do most of the Volunteers, who are tired of the Expedition, which has lasted longer than they at first expected it would. The Militia are obliged to do all the work, while the Continentals only mount Guard. They are under great apprehensions of the appearance of the British Fleet, and in case of such an event, will certainly raise the Siege and go off. They expect the British Fleet, and 3000 troops from New York. There was a meeting of all the Generals yesterday at Sullivan's quarters, after which it was underſtood they had come to a determination to go off the Island soon; if the French fleet did not appear. They have had several men killed and wounded by the fire of our Batteries, and do not like the thoughts of coming much more under our fire. Moſt of the Militia without tents, and in general badly cloathed. They receive twenty dollars a day for their service. Their troops served with two days fresh beef and one days salt pork at a time. Their provisions come from Connecticut and Providence, and almoſt all the Carriages of the Country are employed in this service. Vegetables and Indian Corn are taken by the troops wherever they find them on the Island. Milk, 2s/6 Sterling a quart in their Camp. There is a great scarcity of water also with them.

Desertion prevails a good deal with us, particularly from the German Regiments.

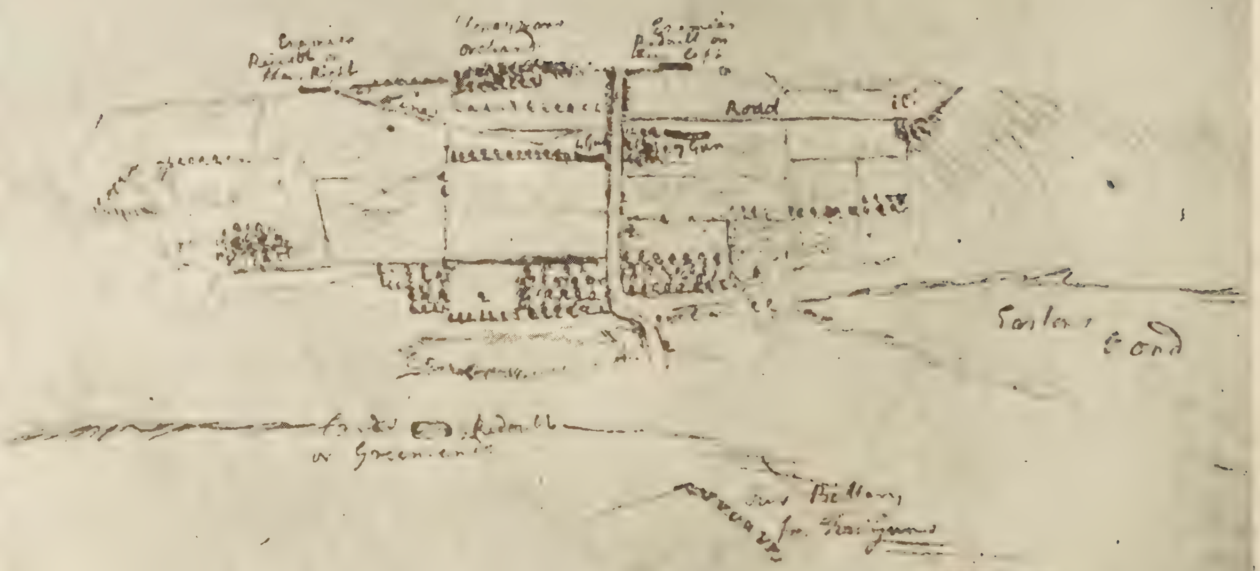
25th Augt 1778 All quiet laſt night, except throwing a few shells on each side. No damage done by those of the Rebels, until 4 this Morning, when one burſting over Green-End Redoubt, a splinter ſtruck a Man of the 38th Light Infantry, and killed him on the spot.

Some of our parties employed during the night in finishing the 7 Gun Battery, and getting the Guns into it.

At 3/4 paſt 6 this Morning all the Guns that could be brought to bear with any effect upon the Enemy's batteries N° 3, & 4, with two 8 Inch Mortars at the 7 Gun Battery, and all the small Mortars in Green End Redoubt, opened upon them. Our Guns were, 4, 24s, and 3. 18s, at the 7 Gun battery; 1, 24, & 2, 18s, at the Battery near Dudleys; 3, 12s, at the 5 Gun Battery; 1, 18, at Dudley's Redoubt; 3, 12s, at the 3 Gun battery; and 2, 18s at Banniſters. In all 19. We kept so brisk and well-directed a fire upon them for an hour and an half, that the Rebels dare not shew themselves, nor fire a shot from either of those batteries. They threw a few shells only. Our fire slackened about half paſt Eight, but we fired occasionally at them during the day, and they only now and then returned a shot from N° 4, and a few shells. We had not a Man hurt this day, except the one at Green End Redoubt.

The Rebels made some progreſs this day in perfecting the trenches they had begun, but they made no advance upon us. They continue to carry on the Trench to communicate with N° 5. It is low and much under our fire, but they continue their

View of the Rebels batteries & approaches on Honeyman's hill.
26th Aug. 1776



Honeymans Orchard
Road
7 Gun
w Green
Battery
Pond

work notwithstanding many shot were fired at them from Bannister's Redoubt, and several shells from Green-End.

A Man was brought off last night from the Narraganset side; but he knows very little of the Army against us, except that 'tis said the 20 days Militia are going home as fast as their respective times of service expires, and that men drafted from the Militia for the same term, are coming in their room.

He says The French put all the Pilots they had for this harbour, on shore, before they sailed last from hence; and ordered such sick and wounded as they left behind, to be sent to Providence as soon as they were in a condition to be moved. It is reported in the Country, that a British 50 Gun ship, supposed to be Commanded by Sir James Wallace, engaged The Languedoc singly, and would have taken her but for the unexpected appearance of some of the French Squadron. No Certainty of there having been a general Engagement.

26th Augt 1778. Last night clear and still. A few shells thrown at the Enemy's approaches.

A Corporal of the 54th Regt and three German Soldiers, deserted last night.

A Deserter came in from the Rebels; He says they are certainly on the point of going off; — that their Park of Artillery marched yesterday — that he saw some heavy Cannon in the great road, and Oxen brought down to draw them off — that the baggage of many of the Officers is gone. — that 500 men marched yesterday morning to Quaker hill, to throw up works there, as they give out they intend to keep the North end of the Island — that the men who went upon duty last night were ordered to take all their things with them; and that they are in hourly expectation of seeing the British Fleet, which they hear amounts to 18 Men of war, and transports with 3,000 troops.

A Rebel Sentry was brought off early this Morning by two of Colonel Fanning's Regiment; but he is a Stupid German and knows nothing.

The Rebels did not work at all last night; at least there is no appearance of their having done any work. Their Camp appears the same this Morning as usual.

Our parties are employed in finishing the repairs of the works, in thickening the line on the right, in carrying on the line near Irishes, and in making traverses at the 7 Gun Battery.

The Rebels fired very little this day, and not at all from either of their lower Batteries, from which the Guns appear to have been withdrawn. They fired a 4 p^{r} from N^{o} 1. They threw only one shell laſt night. We also fired but little at them.

From a number of circumſtances, which agree with the accounts from the deserters, there is great reason to believe the Rebels are prepared for moving off, and will certainly retire upon the appearance of the British Fleet; in which case General Pigot is determined to give them a blow, if poſsible.

Before night we were well convinced that the greateſt part of the Enemy's Artillery has been drawn off from their Batteries, for they have not fired from more than Six pieces of Cannon all day, and one of them is a 4 p^{r}.

Every means are taking to get intelligence this Evening of the Movements of the Enemy. Four different parties are going out to endeavor to bring in prisoners or others who may give information. But we are extremely deficient in the moſt certain means of procuring accurate & authentic information.

A party of 100 Men of the 54th Regiment under the Command of L^{t} Colonel Bruce, went out at 8 o'Clock this Evening, in order to surprize a Picquet lately poſted by the Rebels in Eaſton's Orchard at the Eaſt end of Eaſton's beach. They succeeded completely, having surrounded and brought off the whole Picquet, conſiſting of 2 Officers, and 30 men, 5 men excepted, who were just gone out to be poſted Sentries.

The Rebels, having just then come down to the poſt, were found under arms, and gave their fire when the party in front were close up to them, immediately after which they threw down their arms and surrendered. The usual humanity of the British troops preserved their lives. Only one of their men, in the scuffle, got slightly wounded in the breaſt with a bayonet.

Our party returned at 9 o'Clock, without any other loſs than one man miſsing, supposed to have been killed.

The prisoners brought in were 1, 2d Lieu^{t} 1 Ensign, and 25 Men; all belonging to Varnum's Brigade of Continental troops.

The weather having been very fair lately, and the earth with which the 7 Gun battery is conſtructed being so extremely dry as to prevent its adhering together & consolidating (notwithſtanding the application of large rammers) the shot of the Enemy has been found to penetrate the Merlons with ease; it was therefore proposed this day to throw a quantity of water on the work, which sinking into the Earth of which (with fascines) it is composed, had the desired effect, and rendered it more solid than could have been done by any other means.

No appearance of any veſsels off the harbour for some days past, altho' we have been anxiously looking out for something from our friends with intelligence; having had no accounts from them since the 31st July. It appears very strange to us, that in the present critical situation of affairs they could not have found any means of communicating with us, or giving us any intelligence.

General Pigot and Captain Brisbane have made use of every poſsible opportunity to send to New York, intelligence of our situation and of that of The French Fleet, and the Army opposed to us.

27th Augt 1778 About 12 o'Clock last night about 20 Rebels advanced by way of the West road with an intention to surprize a Picquet of an Officer and 20 men of the Anspachers posted at the junction of the East and West roads about 200 yards in front of Irishes Redoubt. They drove in the Sentries, & advanced & fired on the Picquet which retired, somewhat precipitately, towards the Redoubt; The Rebels retired soon after, and the Anspachers resumed their post. Two men of Colonel Fanning's Regiment, who had been sent out that road a short time before, to endeavor to carry off a Rebel Sentry for intelligence, observed the abovementioned party advancing, and immediately returned to inform the Picquet of it, but were too late.

Two other men of the same Corps went out about the same time on the same errand in front of Green End Redoubt. They proceeded, without being challenged, into the Enemys most advanced trenches where they remained some time, but without seeing any body. In their return they were fired at by a Sentry, but got back safe.

An armed boat belonging to The Cerberus went up the harbour last night to endeavor to bring off one Dunbar, who lives about 5 miles up the Island on the West shore, or some other well-affected Inhabitant, from whom some authentic information of the Enemys motions might be received; but having met with three different armed whaleboats who fired on them, and finding the Rebels so alert, they returned without having attempted to land.

Our want of Intelligence is much to be lamented. I am almost certain we have not a single Spy out; no person within our lines will venture to undertake this dangerous service, and such few friends as we have without are so discourged by the formidable force collected against us, and the prospect of our being reduced, that they dare not venture to come in or communicate with us. The same reasons prevent desertion from the Enemy; and as we have no communications from our friends at New York, we are destitute of every information but such as we can gather from observing the Enemy's motions by day, and therefore have it not in our power to take the advantages we might, if furnished with good intelligence.

No work done by the Rebels last night, and only two shells thrown by them, which had no effect. We threw a good many shells at their works.

All quiet this Morning. No firing on either side. Very few of the Enemy to be seen in their trenches or lower batteries. Their Camp appears the same as usual; but every thing still & quiet in it.

At 2 o'Clock the Rebels threw two shells at our 7 Gun Battery, which were returned by several from us.

Three sail of ships were seen off Block-Island this Morning; at 10 o'Clock they appeared to be standing for the harbour, and soon after, to our great satisfaction, they were discovered to be English Frigates. At 2 o'Clock they anchored in the harbour, and prove to be The Sphynx, Vigilant & Nautilus from New York, from the whence they sailed the Morning of the 25th, in Company with Lord Howe's fleet. They parted from him yesterday. His Lordship has a fine fleet well manned under his Command, and was in hopes to have found Mr D'Estaing at anchor off this harbour, but having received information of their having steered for Boston, he is gone in pursuit of them, and is in great hopes of intercepting them before they can shelter themselves there.

The British Fleet suffered no very material damage in the late Storm. The Apollo, in which Lord Howe was, lost her Masts, and the Raisonable her Boltsprit: the latter has been repaired, and she is gone with the Fleet. A Reinforcement of near 4000 troops may be expected daily from New York.

Some movements were observed in the Rebel Camp this Evening; and as this is a time when the Rebels may be induced to make some attempt of consequence, the General, in order to be prepared for all events, and to fruſtrate if poſsible any sudden attack, has ordered the Army to remain aſsembled in Camp, and when it grows dark to march and occupy their respective poſts in the lines. The diſtance of our encampment from the lines (occasioned by the Enemy's Cannonade) renders this precaution highly neceſsary, but particularly at this time.

A Flag of truce went out this Morning with letters from the two Officers laſt taken, to their Commanding Officer, requeſting that their cloathes and some hard money may be sent in to them.

27th Augt 1778 The order in which the Troops drew up this night at the lines was as follows —

The Flank Companies, on the Right of the 10 Gun Battery; The Picquet (100 men) of Ditfourth, between the 10 Gun Battery and the Wind mill; 22d Regt from the Windmill to the 3 Gun battery: 43rd from thence to Dudley's Redoubt; Brown's Regt from thence to Banniſter's Garden; Fannings, from thence to Banniſter's Redoubt; 1ſt Anspach from thence to Irishes; 2d Anspach, Huyne, & Landgrave from thence to Tomini hill; Chaſseurs at the Fleche on the left of Tomini; and The Marines in Tomini-hill.

The 38th, 54th, Ditfourth and Bunau, were ſtationed at the inner lines, and the poſts towards Brenton's neck and the town.

Our fixed poſts at night, in the front of the line, and in the Redoubts, are as follows, Vizt.

	S	S	C	D	P
Green End Redoubt	1	1	1	1	30
Bliſses house, near the Damms	1	1	1	1	20
Dudley's Redoubt	1	1	1	1	30
Banniſter's Redoubt	1	1	1	1	30
Irishes Redoubt	1	1	1	1	30
At the Junction of the Roads	1	1	1	1	20
Fleche on the left of Tomini	1	1	1	1	20
	7	7	7	7	180

	C	S	S	C	D	P
The Picquet of each Regiment conſiſts of	1	2	3	3	2	100
except Brown's, which being weak gives only	1	1	1	1	1	40

That of the Landgrave's Regiment, is poſted to the left of Tomini hill, and that of Huyne behind the Fleche at little Tomini. The Picquets of the other Regiments are usually poſted behind the line in the Center of that part of it allotted to their respective Corps; but this night, a Picquet of a Subaltern and 30 of each Regiment was posted in front of the line opposite their Respective Corps.

28th Aug^{t} 1778 Frequent patroles went out last night, but they observed nothing particular among the Rebels, except that they were unusually alert, and fired several times when they heard our patroles paſsing near them.

A few Rebels advanced about 11 o'Clock towards the Picquet at the junction of the roads, fired at the Sentries, and then retired.

Two men of Fanning's went out last night to take off a Rebel Sentry; they got close up to two Sentries whom they seized suddenly, but as they were strong men, and made a good deal of noise and resistance, they were under the neceſsity of killing them in order to make their escape in security.

Very fine still night 'till 12 oClock, when the wind sprung up fresh at N. and continued to blow from that point 'till day.

Not a shot or shell fired by either party from 7 o'Clock last night 'till 6 o'Clock this Morning.

The troops returned to Camp at daybreak this Morning.

The Rebels made no new works last night, nor does there appear any alteration in their Camp this morning. Few of them appear in their upper works, and hardly a man in their lower ones. They fired some shot this Morning from N° 1; and about one o'Clock they fired from two Guns in N° 2. They threw no shells all day.

The inactivity of the Rebels for the last two or three days, is only to be accounted for from their having received information of a Reinforcement coming to us, and their having given over all hopes of further aſsistance from the French Fleet; and that in consequence thereof, they have determined to raise the siege upon the appearance of a British Fleet.

I am well convinced they will not now be able to prevail on their Troops to attack our works, which have been much strengthened since the commencement of the Siege. Had they attacked us at first when their numbers were greater, and their spirits higher, they might have had some prospect of succeſs, at present, they can have very little hopes of succeeding, and will go off when our fleet appears laying the blame on the French.

The Rebels appear to have encreased the number of men on duty at night, for some nights paſt, it is impoſsible to ascertain their numbers, as they do not go upon duty until it is dark, and go off before daylight. The attacking their Guards, and carrying off their Sentries has probably caused them to be unusually alert of late; or perhaps if they intend going off soon, they are desirous of guarding againſt any attempts we may make on them.

It is rather extraordinary that the Rebels have not thrown any shells from their 13 Inch Mortar since the three they threw

Disposition of the Guns on the Batteries, during the siege of Newport — 28th Augt 1778 —

Batteries			Nature of Guns			
			24	18	12	6
Sea batteries	Brenton's point		4	.	.	.
	Goat Island		3	2	.	.
	North battery		2	.	3	.
South End	Fleche near the upper road		.	.	.	3
	North Redoubt	Brenton's neck	.	.	3	.
	South Redoubt		.	.	3	.
Interior Line	Eaſton's beach Redoubt		.	.	3	.
	Nº 1		.	.	3	.
	Nº 2		.	.	2	.
	Barrier Redoubt		.	.	4	.
	Nº 3		.	.	2	.
Exterior Line	10 Gun battery above Green End		.	.	7	.
	7 Gun battery		4	3	.	.
	1 Gun battery		.	.	1	.
	Green end Redoubt		.	.	2	.
	3 Gun battery		1	2	.	.
	Sunken battery		.	.	3	.
	Dudley's Redoubt		.	.	2	.
	Sunken battery		.	.	3	.
	Banniſter's Redoubt		.	.	3	.
	Irishe's Redoubt		.	2	1	.
	Little Tomini		.	.	.	2
	Tomini hill		.	.	8	.
Total			14	9	53	5

N. B. 2–8 Inch Mortars, on the left of the 1 Gun battery
Several Cohorns & Royals, in Green End Redoubt.

	32lb.	24	18	12	Mortars
Total of Rebel Ordnance, in battery, 26th Augt....	1	8	2	6	4

the night of the 23rd Instant. Some accident must have happened to the Mortar, or they are in want of shells for it; for otherwise they would hardly have neglected to have taken the advantage of using it against our works, or against the Encampment of our left wing, which would be much incommoded thereby.

A flag of truce came in this Evening with some neceſsaries for the Prisoners, and one Guinea for each of the Officers lately taken.

Our parties did not work after 12 o'Clock last night. The Guards at Brenton's point, and Goat Island, were withdrawn last night, as there is nothing to be apprehended from the Enemys fleet. The Seamen however, stationed at the Cannon in those works, remain.

The Vigilant (late the Empreſs of Ruſsia Transport,) mounting 14, 24 p^{rs}, 6, 12s, and 2, 6s) came up this Evening and anchored off Coddrington's Cove: She affords great security to our left, which has hitherto been exposed to attempts from the Rebels boats.

Some of the Enemys small craft from the Eastward were seen off Easton's beach this Morning, and one of their Privateers off Point Judith.

The Spitfire Galley, and a Privateer Brig lately arrived went up the Bay this Morning, and anchored off Stoddard's landing. As the Rebels have received great part of their provisions from the Narraganset side, the position of these veſsels will in some degree distress them, as it will oblige them to have them round by way of Warwick.

29th Aug^{t} 1778 Last night still and clear. Nothing particular observed during the night.

Half of each Corps in the 1st line lay out at their alarm posts last night.

About 12 o'Clock some skulking fellows crept up unobserved near the Sentries advanced from the Picquet at the junction of the roads, fired upon them, and wounded three men. A part of the Picquet advanced and drove them back immediately.

As soon as the day broke this Morning and we could see as far as the Enemys Encampment it was observed that their tents were struck; I went immediately on the top of Dudleys house, and when it grew lighter, I could plainly perceive that the Rebels had struck their whole Camp, and had marched off; hardly a man was to be seen in their Batteries or Trenches. I rode as faſt as poſsible to General Pigot's quarters in Newport and informed him of it, and returned to the Camp with his orders for all the troops to get under arms with the utmoſt expedition. The General came to Irishes Redoubt by the time the Troops were aſsembled, and being satisfied that the Rebels had quitted their position, he gave orders for a part of the Army to march out, in three Columns, to pursue them, but to advance with caution, and not bring on an Action with a part of our force. The right Column was composed of the 38th, and 54th Regiments under the Command of Major General Prescott, who was directed to march over Eaſton's beach, enter the left of the Enemys encampment, and take poſseſsion of all their works on Honeyman's hill, where he was to wait further orders. The Center Column was composed of the Flank Companies of the 38th & 54th, and the 22d, & 43rd Regiments, under the Command of Brigadier General Smith. This Column marched out at Irishes Redoubt, and proceeded on the Eaſt road towards Quaker hill. The left Column was composed of the Heſsian Chaſseurs, and the two Anspach Battalions, under the Command of Major Genl Loſsberg; this Column marched out at Irishes Redoubt, & proceeded by the Weſt road towards General Smith's late quarters on that road. The troops began to march about half paſt 6 o'Clock.

The right Column proceeded to the heights beyond Honeyman's hill without meeting any part of the Enemy. The Center Column had got as far as the Blacksmith's on the Eaſt road, when it was observed that the left Column had fallen in with some of them near Mr Overing's, where there was a good deal of firing. General Pigot having received information of this, and that the Enemy were in force in the neighbourhood of Quaker hill, sent orders to Major General Prescott to detach the 54th Regiment to reinforce Brigadier General Smith, & at the same time ordered Brown's Regiment to march from the lines for the same purpose. Huynes, & Fanning's Regiments were also ordered to march by the Weſt road to reinforce Major General Loſsberg. The Regiments of Landgrave, Ditfourth, & Bunau, remained in the lines with General Pigot; for even at this time there were apprehensions that the Rebels had only drawn off towards the Eaſt side of the Island with an intention of drawing us out from the lines, and cutting in between us and the town.

The Chaſseurs, who headed Major General Loſsberg's Column, were opposed near Mr Overing's by a few of the Enemy, who were soon forced from their position; and the Major General having been joined by Huyne's & Fanning's Regiment, advanced as far as Turkey hill, near which a considerable body of the Rebels were drawn up, but being attacked with great spirit by the Chaſseurs, Huyne's and Fanning's, they were soon driven from thence and obliged to retire as far as The Artillery Redoubt, where they formed in force. Major General Loſsberg formed his Column behind Turkey hill, and from it cannonaded the Enemy in front. During this time Brigadier General Smith's Column was advancing on the East road, but did not meet with any part of the Rebels until they came very near Shearman's house on Quaker hill, near which a body of about 700 of them were drawn up behind the walls of the croſs road leading to the Windmill; as the Column advanced without having flanking parties out, or taking the usual precautions, they were close to the Rebels before they discovered them, and received from them a heavy fire which did a good deal of execution; the Flank Companies immediately turned out of the road and attacked the Enemy, while the Column (consisting only of the 22d, & 43rd, for the 54th & Browns had not yet come up) pushed on along the road thro' a heavy fire, as far as Shearman's, when the Rebels gave way, and were drove with precipitation and loſs down Quaker hill to the croſs road leading to the Artillery Redoubt. At the moment the Rebel Corps near Shearman's gave way, a considerable reinforcement was coming up the hill to them, but they took to their heels along with the rest, and did not stop till they came to the Croſs road.

The Rebels had no Cannon with them on Quaker hill but when they formed at the Artillery Redoubt, and in the Croſs road they fired some 4 prs at the Troops on Turkey hill, and Quaker hill, but without much effect. The 54th and Brown's joined Brigadier General Smith soon after he had driven the Rebels from Quaker hill. It was now perceived that the greatest part if not the whole of the Rebel Army was still on the Island, and as they were strongly posted from the Artillery Redoubt on their right to David Fishe's house on their left, their troops being placed in the croſs road between those points, which has a Stone wall on each side, it was not thought adviseable to renew the attack on them. However we cannonaded those in the nearest posts for some time, from Quaker hill and Turkey hill, but without being able to dislodge them.

The Main body of the Rebel Army were now posted about Windmill hill, with a line of troops from the Artillery Redoubt to David Fish's on the East road.

As soon as the Troops marched out in pursuit of the Rebels, The Sphynx, and Vigilant, with the Spitfire Galley and the Privateer Brig, got under way with the wind at N. E. and worked up the paſsage between Rhode-Island and Prudence, in order to annoy the Enemy's right if there should be an opportunity. The Vigilant got up in time to have some shots at the right of the Rebels when drawn up in front of the Artillery Redoubt, but they turning some 18 p^{rs} against her from thence and from Arnold's point, she dropt lower down, and anchored with the other veſsels opposite Slocum's. We were of opinion that had The Vigilant continued in the position she had gained, and persisted in cannonading the Enemy's right with her 24 p^{rs} she would have galled them exceedingly, and poſsibly have enabled us to turn that flank. 'Tis certain there was no neceſsity for her moving back so soon as she did.

The weight of the action this day fell on the Flank Companies and 22d Regiment in forcing the Rebels from Quaker hill; and on Huyne's and Fannings Regiment in driving them out of the Swamp in front of Turkey hill.

When Major General Prescott received orders to detach the 54th Regiment to reinforce Brig^{r} General Smith, he returned with the 38th Regiment to the height above Easton's beach, much chagrined at not having been ordered to take the Command of the troops which composed the Center Column.

General Pigot came to Quaker hill about 2 o'Clock, when finding the Rebels were in great force at the North end of the Island, and that there was no appearance of their going off, he thought it prudent to reinforce the Corps now advanced, and therefore sent orders at 4 oClock for the Landgrave's and Ditfourth's Regiments to march from Newport and join Major General Loſsberg. They arrived about 7 o'Clock, soon after which the troops were posted for the night on the following order. The Flank Companies, 22d & 54th, occupied the ground from the East side of the Island to the East road, the right of the Flank Companies being at William Shearman's house, and the left of the 54th at the Quaker Meeting. The 43rd, and Brown's were placed in the croſs road behind the Meeting, the right of the 43rd to the Meeting, and the left of Brown's to Hadley's house in that road. Fanning's Regiment a little advanced on the left of Browns, with their left to Turkey hill; 1st Anspach behind Turkey hill, their left reaching to the West-road; 2d Anspach, Ditfourth's, Huynes and Landgrave's, on the left of the West road, the left of Landgrave's to the rock near Anthony's house: Heſsian Chaſseurs on their left, facing the Paſsage between this Island and Prudence. Two 12 p^{rs} were posted in the East road near the Quaker-Meeting, and 2, 12 p^{rs} on Turkey hill. The Battalion Guns were posted in the most convenient situations near their respective Corps. Picquets consisting of a Captain, 2 Subalterns and 50 men from each Corps, were posted about 300 yards in front, and communicated from Sea to Sea along our whole front.

Small parties of the Rebels have been endeavoring all day to creep round our flanks under cover of the stone walls, to get shots at some of the Sentries or men straggling about. Some field pieces were fired at them when most advanced, so that we have not lost any men by them.

I cannot avoid mentioning here, that soon after General Pigot came to Quaker hill, some of our Field Officers advised him to retire as soon as it was dark within our lines at Newport; representing to him the badneſs of our position, the superior force of the Rebels, and the great probability there was that as soon as they had recovered themselves a little and observed our position, they would attack us and drive us back in confusion. Nothing certainly was ever more ill judged than all this; Our position is the best in the whole Island, the Island being narrower here than in any other part of it, and the troops being drawn up on heights which extend acroſs the Island; Turkey hill, and Quaker hill Command all the ground in our front by which the Rebels could approach to attack us, which attack it is highly improbable they will make, after having raised the siege and retired to the extreme part of the Island. Their Generals would judge very ill to attack us, well posted, with 20 pieces of Cannon in our front, and our Troops in high spirits with the succeſs of the day; with a body of mixed Troops, who tho' superior perhaps in number, are destitute of that confidence and ardour so requisite to ensure the succeſs of an attack under such circumstances as those apprehended. Convinced in my own mind that retiring in the night to Newport would be attended with most disgraceful consequences, and imply that we had got the worst in this days affair; and being firmly of opinion that the Rebels had not the smallest Idea of attacking us, but on the contrary were only studious to get off the Island without further loſs; I presumed to object strongly to quitting our present position; when after some conversation it was determined by the General to remain, in consequence of which determination the two Heſsian Regiments were ordered up. In justice to General Pigot I must say, that he had no doubts about remaining in the position taken, until those Field Officers talked of the danger attending it.

29th Augt 1778)

Distances of Batteries, at the Siege of Rhode-Island; as measured by Captain Edward Fage of The Royal Artillery. —

	Yards.
From our 10 Gun battery near Green End, to the Enemy's battery N° 2; Measured along the ground	1350
From Ditto, to Ditto, in a direct line...about	1200
From Ditto, to the Enemy's battery N° 4, measured along the Ground	1150
From Ditto, to Ditto; in a direct line, about	1000
From Ditto, to the Enemy's battery, N° 3, by measurement	960
From Ditto, to Ditto, in a direct line, about	800
From Green End Redoubt, to the Enemys battery, N° 3; by measurement	780
From Ditto, to Ditto, in a direct line — about	700
From Ditto, to the Enemys battery, N° 4; by Measurement	980
From Ditto, to Ditto, in a direct line...about	900
From the Barrier Redoubt to our 10 Gun Battery	1200

30th Augt 1778 All quiet last night. Strong wind at S. E. this Morning; before night the wind came round to the S.W. and blew fresh. Hazy till night.

The Rebel army was observed this Morning to be in the same position as they were yesterday afternoon, but large parties are employed in constructing works on their right and left.

Our troops continued in the position they had occupied during the night.

The Chief Engineer was sent for this Morning and consulted with about erecting some works to strengthen our position, and after having examined the ground and other circumstances, he proposed to construct Six Redoubts in our front; those on the right and left to be the largest, and to be for 150 Men and 4

Cannon each: the others for 50 men & 3 Cannon. All these Redoubts he proposed to perfect in seven nights, allowing the men to work 10 hours each night, and that he should employ as many men as he had tools for: (which by the way was never more than 300 since the commencement of this affair.) This immense undertaking, which in the opinion of every Officer who heard it proposed, would not be completed in three weeks, was very juſtly disapproved of by the General, as it was evident, that within 48 hours the Rebels would either attack us or evacuate the Island entirely. He therefore would only agree to his conſtructing one Redoubt on the right, which appeared to be the weakeſt; and accordingly 120 men were ordered for that service this night.

About 12 o'Clock this day, it became evident that the Rebels were preparing to go off; probably this night. Many carriages were employed in carrying off baggage and other incumbrances, from Windmill-hill, to Howland's point. A numerous herd of Cattle which till now had remained near Howland's bridge, was driven down to the point and paſsed over. Several movements of Regiments, some of those in the croſs road being relieved by others from Windmill-hill. Soon after this some of thier Regiments began to file off from the hill towards the ferry at Howlands point, and before 5 o'Clock in the afternoon five Regiments were seen to go down and paſs over in the boats, which from 12 oClock were continually plying between the point and the Main.

Notwithſtanding all this, we could observe that their working parties continued all day employed in carrying on the works they began laſt night, which appear to be two Redoubts, and a line connecting them and some of the works left by us.

They have a considerable force in the croſs road, and parties advanced on their right and left. They have 3, 4 p^{rs} in the road near Fishe's house on their left, from which they fired several shots during the day at the Troops on Quaker hill, but without any other effect than killing an Artillery horse. They have also some heavy guns in the Artillery Redoubt and at Windmill hill, and from them fired at the troops near Turkey hill; some of their shot took place, and killed two, and wounded three men of the Anspachers.

We fired some 12 pounds shot from Quaker hill at their guns on the left, in hopes of dismounting them, but without effect.

They appear to have about five Regiments encamped on Windmill-hill. They have also some troops behind that hill, but their numbers cannot be ascertained.

A deserter came in this Evening who says, that only the Continental troops remain; that the Militia, their baggage, ſtores, and moſt of their heavy Cannon are gone, and that the remainder of their Army will go as soon as poſsible. They acknowledge to have loſt considerably yeſterday. They abuse the French for not having been more active in their co-operation, and blame them for the failure of the Expedition. They expect daily to see an English Fleet with a large body of troops arrive off this harbour.

General Pigot being much indisposed this day, was obliged to return to Newport. Major General Prescott came out to Quaker hill, and took the Command of all the troops advanced.

No change made this afternoon in the disposition of the Troops, who remained in the poſts they occupied laſt night.

31st August 1778 Everything quiet laſt night 'till about 10 o'Clock, when it was reported to Major General Prescott, that the Enemy's boats were heard in motion. On going out with him to a field in the rear of the 22d Regiment, we could plainly hear the noise of their Oars, much talking, and many boats in motion towards Howland's ferry. Some Officers were of opinion that their boats were rowing down the Seconnet, and that the Rebels designed to make a landing in our rear, in order to cut us off from the town; in consequence of this opinion they were for advising an immediate retreat. After liſtening for some time it became evident to all present that the Rebels were croſsing from Howlands point to the Main. About 12 oClock many lights appeared on the Howland's ferry shore, and many of those on Windmill hill were extinguished. At day break it was no longer doubted that the Rebels were gone; not a tent was to be seen on Windmill hill, and as soon as the Sun rose we were perfectly convinced that the whole of thier troops had retreated. Small parties were sent forward to reconnoitre, and one of them consiſting of a Serjeant and 12 Men, marched into the Fort on Windmill hill, without seeing one of the Rebels on the Island.

About 9 o'Clock, the 54th, Landgrave, & Ditfourth, marched forward, and occupied the poſts held by us before the Siege. The 22d and The Flank Companies marched to Fogland to occupy the poſts on the Eaſt side. Huyne's Regiment marched to

Newport to aſsiſt in the duty of the town. The other Corps remained on the heights at Quaker hill, and Turkey hill. The Camp Equipage was sent for this afternoon.

General Prescott was very desirous, as soon as he found the Rebels were retiring, to make an attempt on their rear, from which some advantage might have accrued, but as he was displeased with General Pigot's conduct towards him on the 29th and had no inſtructions to push them at the time of their retreat, he was cautious of taking any ſtep which might if unſucceſsful, have drawn a censure on his conduct. The ground indeed was not favorable for making an attempt on their rear, especially at night. The Fort on Windmill hill commands the road to Howland's bridge, and the Redoubt at Howland's bridge and the low ground of Howlands point, are favorable for securing a retreat. 'Tis probable that part of the Rebels croſsed at Briſtol ferry, which they could do with great security.

The Rebels are moſt of them encamped in the neighbourhood of Howlands ferry, and cantoned in the houses thereabouts. There appears also, a good many in and near Briſtol.

Very little progreſs was made laſt night in the Redoubt which we began upon our right — 120 men began to work at 10 oClock, and continued at it until day break this Morning, at which time the parapet was not above 18 Inches high. From this specimen a judgement may be formed of the time it would take to conſtruct the Six Redoubts proposed yeſterday. I cannot help saying that our men work very ill in general. It is a good deal owing to want of attention and exertion of the part of the Officers.

1st Septr 1778 — Fine weather. Wind S. W.

Soon after day light, the Rebel army, which lay encamped at, and Near Howlands ferry, began to ſtrike their tents. Some of the Regiments embarked at the wharf, and proceeded from thence in boats, acroſs Mount hope bay, to Kickemuit River; others to Taunton River. Several marched up the Boſton road; & one or two acroſs the Country to the Eaſtward. By 10 o'Clock they were all gone, except one Regiment, supposed to be Topham's, which remained encamped between the upper and lower Forts. About 1 o'Clock, a large division of boats, with troops on board, came out from Briſtol, paſsed round Pappasquash point, and then croſsed the bay towards Warwick neck.

The Rebels have now to all appearance quitted our Neighbourhood. The Militia we conclude are gone to their respective homes.

At 7 o'Clock this Morning a fleet of near 70 sail appeared coming round Point Judith from the Sound, steering directly for the harbour. We immediately concluded it to be our friends from New York. At 10 o'Clock Sir Henry Clinton came ashore, and about 2 the whole fleet came to anchor in the harbour under the Conanicut shore.

The troops arrived consist of the, 15th, 17th, 33rd, 37th, 42d, 44th, 46th and 64th Regiments; the 1st Battalion of Grenadiers, and 1st of Light Infantry, with 2 brigades of Artillery: the whole under the Command of Sir Henry Clinton, and Major General Grey.

The troops are without camp Equipage, and have very little baggage with them. They sailed from Huntington the and came to relieve this place, not knowing the Rebels had raised the siege. Part of the troops have been on board the transports in Huntington bay, for some weeks, but waited for certain intelligence of D'Estaings fleet having left the place. Contrary winds have detained them for some days, or they would have been here time enough to have aſsisted in giving Mr Sullivan a good drubbing.

Lieut Col: Stuart, who sailed from hence the Evening of the 28th Augt with dispatches for Sr H. Clinton, did not meet with the fleet, the Nautilus having gone the outside paſsage so that Sr Henry had no late accounts of the situation of the Garrison.

The Disposition of the troops now on this Island, is as follows,

54th Landgrave's Ditfourths	On Windmill hill, behind the Redoubts, taking the posts at The Artillery Redoubt, Bristol ferry, Commonfence, & Howland's bridge.

(The Heſsians are encamped, the 54th are at present in the barracks, occasioned by the Rebels having placed two guns on Gold Island, from whence they have thrown shot on the ground intended for the 54th. It is supposed they will remove their guns in a day or two. They had placed them there, in order to cover their retreat over Howland's neck.)

43rd Brown's Fanning's	On Quaker hill; fronting Windmill hill. Their picquets, of an Officer & 20 each on the East shore, from Ewing's to the Sandy point, near McCurry's.
1st Anspach 2nd Anspach	On the left of the West road in a line with Turkey hill, fronting the Artillery Redoubt, with their picquets on the West shore.
22d & Flank Comps	at Fogland ferry. Their posts along the East shore from Sandy point, as far as the battery in Lopez's bay.

The Heſsian Chaſseurs, who were encamped on the left of the Anspach Battalions, received orders to return into town this Evening, and encamped near the Barrier Redoubt.

Huyne's
Bunau's } Are encamped within the old lines; their right to the Barrier Redoubt, and left stretching toward Brindley's rope house. They do the town duty.

38th Regt Is encamped on the height above Easton's beach, fronting East, and guarding that post.

The Park of Artillery is within the Barrier, in front of Huyne's Regiment.

2d Septr 1778 — Fine day. Wind N.

No part of the Rebel army is now in sight of us, except Topham's Regiment at Howland's ferry, and a few troops at Bristol.

None of the troops arrived with Sir Henry Clinton, have disembarked. They expect to sail this afternoon; but whether to return to New York, or to attempt something along the Connecticut shore, is uncertain. 'Tis imagined New London will be an object, it having been continually a nest for Privateers who have infested the Sound.

The loſs of the King's troops the 29th Augt will be seen in the annexed Return. But I must observe here, that the wounded of the Heſsians is by no means really so numerous, as it appears; for this reason: The Landgrave by the treaty is allowed so much for every man killed, and every three men wounded, are reckoned as a man killed. The Captain of a Company is also allowed by the Landgrave so much for each man of his Company who is wounded; it is therefore the interest of both to have the Return swelled as much as poſsible, and on these occasions they return every man wounded, who has had blood drawn.

It is very different in the British service, where it is difficult to oblige a Soldier to allow proper care to be taken of a slight wound, by which means several are for some time rendered incapable of their duty by neglecting them — and several of these are not returned as wounded at all.

The loſs sustained by the Rebels since the Commencement of the siege, is uncertain. In the affair of the 29th, it was considerable, but they took uncommon pains to carry off both dead & wounded. 19 were buried that morning by the 3 British Regiments on Quaker hill. Their loſs on the left must have been nearly equal. The Inhabitants saw many others carried off, and numbers of wounded.

Some of their Officers informed the Inhabitants that they had lost above 1000 men since their coming on the Island, in killed, wounded & prisoners, & by death & desertion.

The exceſses which have been committed on the Island, by all the troops, since the 29th Augt have been very great, and have thrown great disgrace on our arms. Sufficient pains have not been taken to put a ſtop to them. One Inhabitant was killed the 29th by some of the Anspachers, who entering the house, from whence the Rebels had been driven, took him for one of them, and immediately shot him. The man was a poor inoffensive Quaker, and has left a wife and two Children.

On these occasions the reins of Military discipline should be held more tight, but in general they are more relaxed.

3rd Septr 1778 — The Fleet and troops which arrived here with Sir Henry Clinton sailed laſt night with a fair wind. It is uncertain whether they went round Block Island towards Sandy hook, or up the Sound directly to New York.

The Venus arrived laſt night from New York. She has brought the letters which came from England by the June & July Packets.

Fine day. Wind N.

Brown's Regiment of Provincials, marched this day & encamped on Honeyman's hill, where the Rebels firſt broke ground. They are to be employed in levelling the Rebel Batteries, and filling up the Trenches there.

Sir Henry Clinton was not a little disappointed on his arrival here to find that the Rebel army had entirely quitted the Island. He and the Officers about him were in hopes to have had the Credit of driving the Enemy off, and raising the Siege, and they were so much chagrined that they found great fault with Genl Pigots latter operations, blamed him for Marching out after the Enemy, and for not returning within the lines the same night, by which they said he risqued the loſs of the Island, which the Rebels might have poſseſsed again, had they attacked us on Quaker-hill that night. They said he should not, on any account, have pursued them, as he knew Sir Henry Clinton was hourly expected with a Reinforcement. In short as they did not come in for any share of the Credit, and the affair was finished before their arrival, they thought proper to find fault with every thing, and went off in a very ill humour.

If General Pigot had suffered the Enemy to have retired without having moleſted them in their retreat, he would have been blamed, and I think juſtly. I know that his directions were to advance with caution, and by no means to bring on an action with only a part of the troops. The right Column, was conducted in a very unmilitary Manner, and advanced within half a Mile of Quaker hill without having once formed, or taken the usual precautions of sending forward an advanced Guard, or sending out Flanking parties to discover the situation of the Enemy. The 22d & 43rd were not formed, and had only just loaded, when they were fired upon by the Enemy who were strongly posted behind Stone fences near Shearman's house on their left flank. The 22d did not form even then, but pushed forward in Column, through the enemy, and upon the 43rd forming to the left, they retired. Had a single flanking party been sent out to the left of the Column, the Enemy could not have concealed themselves. General Smith should have sent a Detachment along the middle road, which is the highest ground, & from whence every movement of the Rebels might have been seen; which would have prevented this little check upon the advance of this Column. Another great mistake was, taking a body of Rebels for Heſsians, altho' they were within half Musquet shot, and retiring before our people, who were not undeceived until the Rebels turned and fired upon them. If the Rebels had thought of forming an Ambuscade near the Blacksmith's shop, for which the ground was well adapted, the advance of the Right Column might have been prevented,which would have prevented Genl Losberg's Column from pursuing further. There was no skill shewn in conducting the Column on the Right.

4th Sep: 1778 Fine weather. Wind S. W.

The Fleet which went out with Sir Henry Clinton, was seen this Morning paſsing by the Mouth of the Seconnet, steering for Bedford. Sir Henry Clinton is not with them, he having gone in the Carysfort to New York. The Expedition is under the Command of Sir Charles Grey.

The Grand fleet under Lord Howe, hove in sight this day from the S. E.

5th Sepr 1778 — Warm day. Wind W. S. W.

Came in early this Morning The Pearl Frigate: and about 2 o'Clock, the St Albans, Preston, and Centurion, part of Ld Howe's fleet. The rest of the fleet are in the Offing. The three large ships are come in for the purpose of taking on board the Officers, Seamen and Stores of the Frigates lately destroyed here here, and to get water. The St Albans having been on shore on

Cape Cod, and been obliged to start most of her water, was under the neceſsity of getting a Supply here.

The French fleet had all got into Nantasket road when Lord Howe appeared off Boston. Their situation, & the strength of the adjacent Islands, and points, rendered any attempt against them impracticable.

A great fire appeared towards Bedford last night, which continued from about 8 oClock till one this Morning. We conclude from this appearance, that Gen^l Grey has succeeded in destroying the Enemy's shipping and Stores at that place.

The Marines went over this day to Cononicut to relieve the Detachment of the 54th Regiment posted there.

Two 12 pounders were brought out this day, & placed in Bristol ferry Redoubt. The 2, 24 p^rs brought out the 31st August to Windmill hill, were taken into town.

The Guns in the different Batteries near the town, are removing to the Park.

A General Court Martial is now sitting, consisting of 15 Members for the trial of some Officers. The Court Martial was first ordered to aſsemble on the July, and to consist of 3 Field Officers, and ten Captains: when the French Fleet appeared, the Members were ordered to do duty, and any further proceedings were suspended, until the when the Court was ordered to meet again: in the interim, a Captain of the 54th, who was a member, had sold out, and another was ordered in his room: but previous to the [day] appointed for their meeting, some Officers of the Provincials were ordered to be tried, and the General directed, that instead of the Officer ordered in the room of the Officer sold out, three Provincial Captains should be added: so that now it consists of three Field Officers, and 12 Captains; a Circumstance that I do not remember to have occurred before.

6th Se^p Warm day. Wind W.

Ditfourth's Regeiment marched to Newport.

Came in the Nautilus from New York.

A Deserter came in this day. He reports that Fayette is at Bristol with a Brigade, and that there is a brigade at Howland's ferry, and another at Providence.

7th — Warm weather. No wind all day.

A great smoke to the Southward of Bedford.

Tis said that Lord Cornwallis is coming to take the Command on this Island.

No appearance of the Expedition under Gen[1] Grey. Gen[1] Pigot appears at present to be much chagrined with Sir Henry Clinton; and Gen[1] Prescot with every Body.

8th Sept^r 1778 — Warm day. Wind S.

Came in a veſsel from Gen[1] Grey, with information that he had landed at Bedford, and had totally burnt and deſtroyed above 60 sail of veſsels, (many of them Privateers) and a quantity of valuable Stores, &c., &c: that he had only 6 men wounded, and was preparing to proceed to Martha's Vineyard to bring off a quantity of Stock for the use of the Army, and desiring that as many small veſsels as poſsible might be sent from hence to be loaded with Stock for the use of this Garrison.

Lord Howe remains with his fleet off Block-Island. The Inhabitants of this Island whose Cattle & Horses were taken from them during the Siege, have had all which can be found returned to them. Such Cattle as were killed for the Supply of the Troops, are to be paid for.

9th Se^p 1778. Fine Morning, & Wind S. E. About 12 oClock it began to rain, which continued with great violence till about 6 in the Evening, when the wind came round to the N. W. and it cleared up.

All the Officers, Seamen and Marines belonging to the veſsels lately burnt here, have embarked on board the ships which came in under the Command of Commadore Hotham. They are to be conveyed to New York, and be diſtributed to the ships of Admiral Byrons fleet lately arrive there, which are very sickly. Moſt of the Naval Stores saved from the Frigates, and others deposited here, have been put on board the above ships.

10th Sep^r 1778 — Clear fine weather. Wind N.

The Ships under Commadore Hotham sailed this Morning for New York. A number of small veſsels sailed at the same time for Martha's Vineyard, for Stock.

The Redoubts and Batteries from Green-end to Tomini-hill have been dismantled, and the Guns brought to the Artillery Park.

11th Sep^r — Clear pleasant day. Wind N.

Sailed the Nautilus for New York. The veſsels now remaining with us are The Pearl, The Sphynx, and two Gallies. The Pearl is ſtationed in the harbour, The Sphynx off Almy's point between this Island and Providence, and the Gallies in the Seconnet, off Black point.

The Rebels remain perfectly quiet in our Neighbourhood, and it seems probable that their whole attention is given to the motions of General Greys Corps.

12th Septr 1778 — Fine weather. Wind S — Some rain about Sunset.

Many apple trees, and some Cherry trees, in the Neighbourhood of Quaker hill, are now in as full bloom, as in the Spring. The Peach, and many other Fruit trees, have thrown out fresh shoots, and leaves. Very little fruit upon the Island this Season. The apples have generally failed.

13th — Rain most of last night. Fine day. Wind S. E.

A Fleet in sight coming from the Eastward, supposed to be that with Stock from Martha's-Vineyard.

The Rebels fired 3 Cannon shot from their battery at Bristolferry, at some of our people who were taking away some fire wood which had been left by them on the ferry wharf. No damage done.

When the Rebels landed on this Island the beginning of last Month, they constructed a very good wooden bridge near the old one over Howland's Creek. It was this day taken up, and the Planks lodged within our Sentries.

14th — Very fine day. Wind N.

The Stock brought from the Vineyard was partly landed on the East side of this Island. The veſsels are to return for more, as soon as they are unloaded.

The operations of the army appears to be entirely suspended at present. It is therefore probable that Sr H. Clinton, waits for instructions from home how he is to proceed. If something is not done soon, we have wasted a Campaign to very little purpose. The Expedition of Colonel Butler, and his Indian allies, who are advancing thro' the back parts of Pensylvania, & Jersey, with great Success, and spreading terror, and dismay thro' that country, promises much, and if properly aſsisted, may prove of singular advantage in favour of Government.

15th — Good weather. Wind N.

Above 5000 sheep have been landed from Martha's Vineyard, for the use of the troops on this Island. This will prove a seasonable supply as the Stock on this Island is nearly exhausted.

16th — Fine weather. Wind N. E.

The Fleet under General Grey was seen this Morning coming from the Eaſtward. They paſsed to the Southward of this Island, and Steered up the Sound; at 1 oClock, they paſsed round point Judith, and were out of sight soon after. Their leaving the Island so soon, has prevented us from sending the veſsels back for Stock.

17th — Heavy rain, and Strong gale of wind all laſt night, and till 10 this Morning, from the N. E. soon after 10 the wind changed to the S. W. and continued with the same violence, attended with rain, till 4 this Evening. 'Tis probable the prospect of blowing weather at this time, was the reason the fleet quitted the Vineyard so soon.

18th — Laſt night clear and fair. Fine morning till 11, when there was a heavy shower, for an hour. Wind S. W. Clear afternoon.

Two large ships have been seen off, moſt of this day; at 6 they came into the harbour, and prove to be the Princeſs Royal of 90 Guns, Admiral Byron; and the Culloden of 74, Capt Balfour.

19th — Fine day. Wind S. W. The Culloden got ashore laſt night in coming in, upon Brentons, N. W. point, where she continued 'till this Morning, but was got off without any damage. Neither of the above ships had a pilot. They have been 15 weeks from England; have been at Halifax; but laſt off Sandy hook. There not being a sufficient depth of water for the Princeſs Royal to get into the hook, but at Spring tides, and the Equinox approaching, the Admiral thought it prudent to come into this harbour. The Albion of 74 Guns, the only miſsing ship of Admiral Byron's fleet, is supposed to have been dismaſted in a violent gale of wind, and put back.

20th Pleasant weather. Wind N.

The Diamond came in early this Morning from Sandy hook; and the Thames, with 8 Sail of Victuallers, by way of the Sound from New York. They Saluted the Flag on coming in. Lord Howe has given up the Command of the fleet to Admiral Gambier, who has received a Commiſsion as Commander in Chief, in the room of Lord Howe.

Admiral Byron, who is a Senior Admiral to Gambier, is only to have the separate command of the Fleet he brought out with him, which is to be employed as a fleet of observation.

21st — Fine weather. Wind S. E.

A Flag of truce came over this day from Howland's ferry, with The Daughter of David Fish, who quitted the Island the 29th Augt on account of the Cannonade.

22d Pleasant weather. Wind E.

Sailed the Thames, with a fleet for New York; and a number of veſsels for Lloyd's neck, to bring wood for this Garrison.

A large Batteau, capable of carrying 50 men, with 6 Oars in her, & numbered 122, was blown over laſt night, from Howlands ferry, and secured by our guards near the bridge.

This being the King's Acceſsion, the Ships in the harbour fired 21 guns each at 1 o'Clock.

23rd — Thick weather. Wind S. E. Heavy Rain from 11 this Morning, which continued till 11 this night. Strong gale of wind at S. E.

Moſt of the tents blown down, and everything belonging to the Soldiers perfectly wetted.

24th Septr 1778 — Clear and pleasant weather. Wind W.

About 70 Inhabitants went off a few days ago in a flag of truce to the Main. The probability of a scarcity of firing and provisions for the Inhabitants during the ensuing winter, has induced many to leave the Island.

A large quantity of turf was made this Summer on Brentons neck, for the use of the troops; but the appearance of the French fleet, and the consequent operations, put a Stop to that work. A quantity about equal to   Cord of wood has been made, but equal to 2000 Cord would have been made, if the work had been continued during the season.

All the turf made, was done by hand, the ſtuff being (in the opinion of the person directing) too tender to bear cutting.

A trial has been made for Coal, at a place on the shore side about a mile S. of Eaſton's beach. The ſtuff dug up is rather a kind of Culm, than Coal. It burns, but is not so inflamable as Coal, nor does it adhere together on being thrown about. Perhaps upon sinking a deeper shaft than the present, (which is not more than 20 feet) good coal may be found.

In any succeeding year, 100 men may make turf enough for the winters supply of a garrison of 5000 men.

25th Fine weather. Wind W.

The Eagle, Lord Howe, came in this afternoon, and anchored in the harbour; from New York. The Galatea came in at the same time.

Admiral Byron, saluted Lord Howe with Guns, as soon as the Eagle came within the S. W. point of Brenton's Neck, which was returned with Guns.

Lord Howe is going immediately from hence to England.

The Haerlem, sailed laſt night from hence to New York. The Diamond sailed this Morning for Boſton bay, where several of the beſt sailing frigates are cruizing to observe the Motions of the French Fleet.

26th Thick weather. Wind W. Small rain moſt part of the day. Fog at night.

Lord Howe sailed early this Morning in the Eagle for England. His Lordship's departure was so sudden, that we had no opportunity of writing home by this opportunity.

The Accounts from New-York are, that Washington has divided his Army, and Marched from his Camp at White plains; that Sr Henry Clinton has also divided the Royal Army, part of which have paſsed into the Jersies, and the reſt have advanced by way of Kingsbridge. The object of these movements is uncertain, but 'tis imagined the progreſs which Colonel Butler, and his Indian confederates are making in the back parts of Jersey, is the principal cause. Some of his parties have penetrated as far as Marbletown, near Esopus; and have ſtruck a panic through the Country. 'Tis surprizing what an effect the burning houses, & deſtroying their property, has had upon the Rebels. 'Tis now become evident, that this way of carrying on the war, is the only effectual method of bringing them to a sense of their duty. Had it been pursued after their rejecting the offers made by the firſt Commiſsioners, the Rebellion would have been at an end before this; but the miſtaken lenity of Government has prolonged the war, and brought the Nation into the present dangerous crisis.

200 sheep, of those brought here from Martha's Vineyard, has been put on board the Princeſs Royal, & Culloden, for the use of the Officers and men of those ships.

27th — Fine clear day. Fresh wind at W. during the middle of the day.

Admiral Byron is going as soon as poſsible to New York, to haſten the refitting of his fleet for Sea; That he may go and cruize off Boston, for the French Fleet. 'Tis privately said that Lord Howe came in here on purpose to tell Admiral Byron, that if he did not go himself to New York, the fleet would be much delayed, as Admiral Gambier, is by no means so active, and diligent as he should be. His Abilities are certainly much inferior to Lord Howe's: whose Naval talents are so shining and conspicuous, that almost any Commander in Chief would appear to disadvantage, coming after him.

The Signal was made this Morning for sailing, but the wind not being quite fair to go out with so large a ship as the Princeſs-Royal, which the Pilots would not take charge of, it was postponed.

Sr Robert Pigot is going from hence to New York in the Galatea; and from thence, in a short time, to England.

28th Septr Fine weather. Wind N. N. W.

The Princeſs-Royal, Culloden, and Galatea, got under way at 10 this Morning. The Admiral, on getting under way was saluted with Guns from the North battery, which he returned. General Pigot was also saluted from the North battery with Guns on going into his boat, to go on board the Galatea. He declined accepting a Guard of a Captain and 50 men, which was ordered to attend him at the water side.

The General goes with the good wishes of all the Garrison; having treated every person under his Command, during the time he has been upon this Island, with that Civility, and attention so natural to men of good sense, and polite Education. We hope on his arrival in England he will be received with the applause his services entitle him to.

General Prescott succeeds to the Command here.

29th Septr 1778 — Good weather. Wind S.

General Prescott ordered me to come into Newport this day, & Major Colvill, who had been appointed during the siege to act as Major of brigade, to relieve Me at the North end of the Island.

30th Close thick weather. Wind fresh at S. W.

Arrived the Carysfort from New York, with two Victuallers, and two trading veſsels under Convoy.

1st Octr Very fine day. Wind S.

Sailed the Carysfort for New York.

Sr H. Clinton having signified his desire when here, that a battery should be made on the Dumplins, for the defence of the harbour; Genl Prescott went over there this day, with the Engineer, and has directed that a battery for 4 large Guns, and a Redoubt for 50 men shall be immediately made there.

1st Octr 1778

Circumstances relative to the misunderstanding between Genl Pigot & Genl Prescott, the 29th Augt 1778 —

As soon as it was perceived that the Rebel army had broke up, & marched off, Gen Pigot sent orders to Genl Prescott, to send a Battalion over Easton's beach, and from thence to advance along Honeyman's hill, and take poſseſsion of the Rebel Batteries and works there. Gen Prescott advanced himself, at the head of the 38th & 54th Regts, and drew up behind Honeyman's hill, near where the left of the Rebel camp had been. When Gen Pigot came to Irish's Redt he expected to have seen the Battalion which he had ordered over the beach in poſseſsion of the Rebel batteries; but after waiting some time and seeing no appearance of them, he ordered Genls Losberg and Smith, to advance with two Battalions each, (the former having the Hessian Chaſseurs, & the latter the Flank Companies as an advanced guard) and to proceed with caution along the West & East roads to observe the position and motions of the Enemy. He at the same time ordered Brown's Regt of Provincials to advance from Irish's Redt and poſseſs the Rebel batteries on Honeyman's hill. Word being soon after brought to him that the Rebels were seen about Mr Overing's on the west road, and that Genl Smith was advancing on the East road; he thought it proper to sustain the troops advanced, and sent orders to Brown's Regt to follow Genl Smith, and Huyne's Regt to support Genl Losberg. Orders were also sent to Genl Prescott (supposing him on the ground above Easton's Redt with the other British Regt) to advance over the beach with that Regt, and join the one which had already marched that way; and for two Heſsian Battalions to take up the ground lately occupied by the two British, above Easton's Redt. As Genl Prescott had marched at first with both the British Battalions, this order did not reach him. I was sent with it, but meeting Genl Huyne's Aid-de-Camp, and finding from him, that Genl Prescott had already paſsed the beach with the two British Battalions, & that Genl Huyne had sent a Heſsian Regt to the ground which had been occupied by the British, I returned to Genl Pigot. In the meantime Genl Pigot having found that Genl Prescott, was beyond Honeyman's hill with the two British Battalions, and thinking Browne's Regt too small a support, to Genl Smith, sent orders to Genl Prescott to detach one of the British Battalions as a further reinforcement. Just when I got back to Genl Pigot, he received intelligence that the Enemy appeared in force on this side of Quaker hill, and that Genl Smith wished to have more troops. The Rebels were also found to be numerous against Genl Losberg. He therefore ordered Fanning's Provincials to march from Irish's, to support Genl Losberg, and sent me with orders to Genl Prescott "to advance with both the British Battalions towards Quaker hill, and take the Command of the whole of the troops advanced, but to be cautious, and by no means to risque a General Action with a part of our force." Soon after I had delivered this order and returned back to Genl Pigot, he received intelligence that the Rebels had been driven from Quaker hill by the troops under the Command of Genl Smith, and that he had taken post there: that Genl Losberg had also driven them on his side, and had taken post on Turkey hill. The affair being thus over, he, after a good deal of consideration, concluded it would be a kind of slight upon Genls Losberg and Smith, to send a superior officer to take the Command, after they had gone thro' all the difficult part of the busineſs; and that there would be no occasion for Genl Prescott's presence there; he therefore sent Captain Savage to inform him, he wished him to return within the lines, and that the 54th Regt only should be sent forward. Genl Prescott returned immediately, but was so much offended, that on his return to his quarters in town he wrote to Sr Robt Pigot, by Capt Welsh his Aid-de-Camp, informing him he thought himself very ill treated, that being Second in Command and so considerable a Corps being sent in pursuit of the Enemy, he had not been ordered on that service, especially as Sr Robt Pigot did not think proper to command them in person. Genl Pigot before the receipt of this letter was preparing to go to Quaker hill to observe the position of the Enemy, and take the Command there. Previous to his setting out, he wrote to Genl Prescott, that in what he had done he was far from intending to throw any slight upon him; but was ready to justify his conduct to the Commander in Chief. Genl Pigot finding, on his arrival at Quaker hill, that the Rebels, had retired only to Windmill-hill, and kept advanced parties within

Cannonade of our poſts, thought prudent to keep the ground which had been gained, and leſt the Enemy should make any attempt to recover the heights, he sent orders for The Landgraves and Ditfourth's Regiments to march from Newport to Turkey hill, to reinforce Gen^{l} Losberg on the left. They arrived at Turkey-hill at 8 in the Evening. The next day, (the 30th Aug^{t}) the Enemy remaining in the same position, with the appearance of going off as soon as they could remove such things as ſtill remained on the Island, and Gen^{l} Pigot, finding himself very much fatigued and unwell, from what he had gone through for some days paſt, he sent to Gen^{l} Prescott to desire he would come out to Quaker hill and take the Command, as he intended going back to Newport. Gen^{l} Prescott came out that Evening, and Gen^{l} Pigot went to town. The Rebels took the advantage of the night, and before day break the 31st their whole army had paſsed over. The Situation of the ground rendered it extreamly dangerous to attack them in their retreat; as it could not be done with advantage, it was our intereſt to get them off the Island. Gen^{l} Prescott not chusing to remain to Command the troops on Quaker hill & Turkey hill, sent Cap^{t} Welsh this Evening (31st) to desire the Gen^{ls} permiſsion to return to Newport, which was granted, and he left Quaker hill the Morning of the 1st Sept^{r}. From the Morning of the 29th Aug^{t}, until a few days before Gen^{l} Pigot embarked for New-York, the two Generals did not speak to each other; nor did Gen^{l} Prescott after the 1st Sept^{r} 'till Gen^{l} Pigot gave him up some letters & other public papers, in consequence of the Command devolving upon him, interfere the leaſt in the Military matters, or act in any shape, as having any thing to do with the troops. At their interview a few days before Gen^{l} Pigot embarked, nothing of their late misunderſtanding was mentioned; but the greateſt civility on both sides. Gen^{l} Prescott ordered a Guard of a Cap^{t} and 50 men to attend Gen^{l} Pigot at his embarking, which Gen^{l} Pigot declined.

S^{r} Henry Clinton arrived in the harbour the 1st Sep^{t} with about 4000 troops from New York, to relieve the place. But the busineſs being done, they did not disembark. It was imagined that many circumſtances relative to the late siege, the affair of the 29th Aug^{t} and other matters, were represented to S^{r} Henry Clinton, in an unfavourable light, for 'tis certain he did not appear to approve with that warmth, nor to pay that attention to Gen^{l} Pigot, which we expected. 'Tis paſt doubt, Gen^{l} Pigot thought himself slighted by Sr Henry, and his treatment seemed to affect him a good deal. Sr Henry Clinton sailed with the troops he brought with him, the Evening of the 2d Septr. Genl Pigot embarked the 28th Septr and the Command of the Island devolved upon Genl Prescott.

2d — Cloudy day. Wind S.

Browne's Regt of Provincials embarked this Morning, and paſsed over to Conanicut, where they encamped. They are to be employed in constructing the work on the Dumplins.

Three Embrasures were opened this day in Brenton's point Redoubt, which give a flank fire upon any ship which should bring up against the battery on Goat Island.

Colonel Fanning's Regt of Provincials marched this Morning from Quaker hill, and encamped near Bannister's house. They are to work at a Fort which is intended to be immediately constructed on the ground, North of Bannister's, for 200 men, & 8 pieces of Cannon.

3rd Octr Fine weather. Wind S. W.

An armed brig arrived last night from New York, with letters for Admiral Byron. She sailed from thence the 30th Septr She went out from hence this afternoon.

4th Good weather. Wind W.

25 Officers, and about 200 Soldiers, the latter principally British, came down this day from Warwick-Neck, to the Sphynx: they were landed at Arnold's point, from whence they marched to town. 146 of them belong to the 71st Regt, and were taken in April 1776 in Boston harbour. There are 16 Officers and some Soldiers of the Brunswick troops, who were taken at Bennington in Augt 1777. They are going by the first Opportunity to New York to be exchanged.

Sailed the King George Privateer of 14 Guns, fitted out by some of the Inhabitants of Newport. She is going to the West Indies.

5th — Good weather. Wind W.

The Heſsian Chaſseurs marched this Morning from their encampment near Bowler's house, and encamped near Mr Overing's on the West road. This Movement is intended for the security of the West side, against any little parties of the Enemy from the Naraganset shore who might land opposite the opening between Prudence and Conanicut. The West side has been greatly exposed since the destruction of the Frigates. There is now only the Sphynx on the West side, & she is stationed off Arnold's point. The Pearl lies in the harbour.

The Redoubt on the Dumplins was begun this day.

The Officers who arrived Yesterday, say, the French Fleet are still in Boston harbour, but not yet repaired. The Rebels are very apprehensive of the appearance of the British Fleet and Army there, and are drawing bodies of troops that way.

As proper masts for the Languedoc cannot be had at Boston, and the getting them from New Hampshire, is too tedious and precarious, the French are shifting the Masts from the Smaller ships into the greater ones, in order to fit them as soon as possible for Sea.

6th Octr — Good weather. Wind S. W.

Two 24 prs are placed in the embrazures lately opened in the Redoubt on Brenton's point.

Each Commiſsioned Officer of the troops on this Island, received a Donation of a Sheep, out of those brought from Martha's Vineyard.

One days fresh meat in the week, is served out to the troops, from the sheep brought from thence.

7th Fine day. Fresh wind at S. S. W.

At 9 this Morning came in the Diamond from Boston bay. The French Fleet were all in Boston harbour the 2d Inst.

This afternoon three Transports came in from Halifax, One of them has on board several Officers and men of different Regiments, who left England in March last, and have been stationed for some time at St John's, Newfoundland. The other two have on board the baggage of the British and German troops included in the Convention; they left Quebec in June, and were intended to go to Boston, but there being some doubts whether the Rebels would permit their baggage to paſs unmolested, notwithstanding it is specified in the Convention of Saratoga, and the veſsels are furnished with paſsports signed by the Rebel General, Heath, they were directed to come to this port, where they might receive further instructions.

8th Octr 1778 — Warm day. Wind S. W.

It is highly probable, that had the ships with the baggage of the Convention army, gone into Boſton, they would have been seized by the French Admiral, notwithſtanding their being furnished with paſsports by Genl Heath. The Officers who have the charge of it, want to have it sent by way of Providence, to Cambridge & Rutland; but the expence attending the transportation of it to the troops, would be immense; as the Rebels charge, and inſiſt upon being paid one hard Dollar pr mile for each Cart, carrying about 800 weight. However as the troops are in the utmoſt want of their cloathing, which is in the above ships, General Phillips, and the Commander in Chief are to be immediately wrote to on the Subject, that some means may be fallen upon to have the troops supplied with the cloathing, without incurring the expence attending the sending it by way of Providence, or the risque of its going round to Boſton.

A Small party of Rebels were upon Commonſence Neck this day. They appeared to come only to look about them, and carry off some rails.

9th — Fine weather. Fresh S. W. Wind. Warm & pleasant.

Sailed the Diamond, to join Admiral Byron.

Some attempts were made this day, to weigh up the Faulcon, which was sunk, to the S. E. of Goat Island, when the French Fleet came in; but in vain: she has lain too long, before any trial was made, and has now three feet of Mud and Sand in her, so that tis very unlikely they will be able to get her up.

A flag of truce came down from Warwick, with Mr Geddes, Deputy Paymaster; and Mr Clark, Comiſsary General of the Convention army. The former is come for £30,000 Sterling in Cash, for the use of that army. The latter is going to New York, to settle the provision accounts with the Commiſsary General.

There have been some Riots at Boſton, on account of the Scarcity of Wheat bread. The French Seamen are served with white bread, and the British Seamen on the American service receiving hard bread, or Indian corn only, aſsembled and forced some bread from the bakehouses. A French Major, and several others have been killed.

A boat from Long Island came in this Morning with some provisions to sell; the people say they saw 9 sail of large ships off the Eaſt end yeſterday ſteering Eaſt. We suppose them to be Admiral Byron's fleet.

10th Octr Thick weather. Rain in the afternoon; Wind S. W.

The wood fleet from Lloyd's Neck, Long-Island, came in this Morning, under convoy of the Fowey. They have brought 534 Cord of wood, for the use of the troops.

The Detachment of Brown's Regt (Prince of Wales's Volunteers) under the Command of Lieut Col Pattinson, which embarked from hence in last; about 40 of Fanning's Regt some Recruits & Convalescents for the Heſsian Regiments; and about 200 Recruits for the Anspach Battalions, came in the above fleet.

The Fowey has brought a number of Copies of a Manifesto and Proclamation, iſsued by the King's Commiſsioners at New York, the 3rd October, addreſsed, "to the Members of Congreſs, the members of the General Aſsemblies of the several" (Rebellious) "Colonies, and all others free Inhabitants of the said Colonies, of every Rank & Denomination," repeating the terms heretofore offered them, and Proclaiming a full and free pardon, without exception, of all manner of treasons, committed before the above date; and extending the same for the space of forty days, to the 11th Novr 1778, Inclusive; excepting to such as, under pretext of Authority, shall be instrumental in executing, or putting to death any of His Majesty's subjects within the Said Colonies.

11th Octr Rain all last night, and this day. N. E. wind, and very Cold.

There was a preſs last night, in which about 100 hands were collected. Most of the Seamen which belonged to the transports sunk here when the French fleet appeared, having entered on board the wood veſsels, and the King's ships being in want of men, it was thought proper to preſs, in order to select such men as are fit for the Service.

12th Octr Clear, fine weather, but cold. Wind N. N. E.

The Detachments arrived from Long Island in the Wood fleet disembarked. That of Brown's Regiment, encamped near Bannister's house in order to aſsist in carrying on the New Fort there. The others joined their respective Regiments.

The Fowey sailed again from hence for New York.

13th Cold cloudy weather, and likely to Snow. Wind N. E.

Six Rebel prisoners made their escape out of the Provost last night, got a boat from one of the wharfs, and landed on Rose

Island, from whence they intended to escape to the main, but to their great disappointment they were immediately seized there by a party of Seamen belonging to the Pearl, who were guarding some sheep. They were brought this Morning to their former place of confinement.

A boat with an Officer and 10 men of Wightman's, Provincials, who were sent a few days ago to the Main for Intelligence, has been taken by the Rebels, and the party sent to Providence Jail.

A Flag of truce was sent up to Providence this day, with Several copies of the Manifeſto, & Proclamation.

14th Octr 1778. Fine mild day. Wind S. E.

A Flag of truce came down this Morning from Providence in which came a Serjt of the 47th, who is exchanged: he informs the General, that before he left the shore, three men of General Burgoyne's army, who had inliſted with the Rebels, informed him privately, that the Rebels intended to make an attempt very soon upon Conanicut, with three brigades, with a view to surprize the troops there, and carry off the sheep which had been sent there to graze, as a place of security. In consequence of this intelligence the General ordered the detachment of Brown's Regiment, which came in with the wood fleet, to embark for Conanicut, with a light 3 pounder, to reinforce that poſt. At 2 oClock, they went over, and encamped with the other part of the Regiment. The Sphynx, was also ordered to move from off Arnolds point, and anchor off the North point of the Island, in order to be able to run down either Channel. The Maria, an armed transport lately arrived from Halifax, went over, and Anchored off the ferry, in order to protect the Magazine of hay there, and cover Brown's Regt in case it should be pushed. It is probable these precautions will prevent the Enemy from making any attempt, especially as the sheep are to be immediately removed to this Island.

There being no armed veſsel of ours in the Narraganset passage at present, that entrance is entirely open for the Rebels, and several small veſsels have been observed to come in there from Sea. They may go up to Providence without danger, as we have no Frigate up the bay, but the Sphynx.

15th Fine weather. Wind S. E.

Came in the Pearl's tender from Halifax. The report at that place of the Engagement off Ushant is, that several French ships were taken, and some deſtroyed.

The Sphynx got to her Station off the North point of Conanicut.

16th Fine day. Wind N. and pretty fresh.

Two Rebel schooners, supposed to be Gallies, were observed to go into North Kingſton, on the Narraganset shore, a few days ago.

17th Good weather. Cold N. Wind, but clear and pleasant.

18th — Fine weather. Wind, S.

The wood veſsels are now unloaded, and ready to proceed to Long Island for another Cargo but the want of a Convoy prevents them from going out; there being several small Privateers continually about point Judith, and the neighbourhood of New London.

The Consumption of the troops, Staff, &c, during the winter, will amount to about 400 Cord of wood pr week, which for 25 weeks comes to 10000 Cord. All the firing at present in Store does not amount to 1500 Cord. About 2000 Cord may be cut on the Island, but then every timber tree muſt be cut. We are not to expect any considerable supply from New York; so that 'tis impoſsible to say how the remainder is to be had.

19th Octr Mild fine day. Wind S. W.

Came in a brig taken by the King George Privateer of this port, from Boſton to Virginia, for flour for the use of the French Fleet.

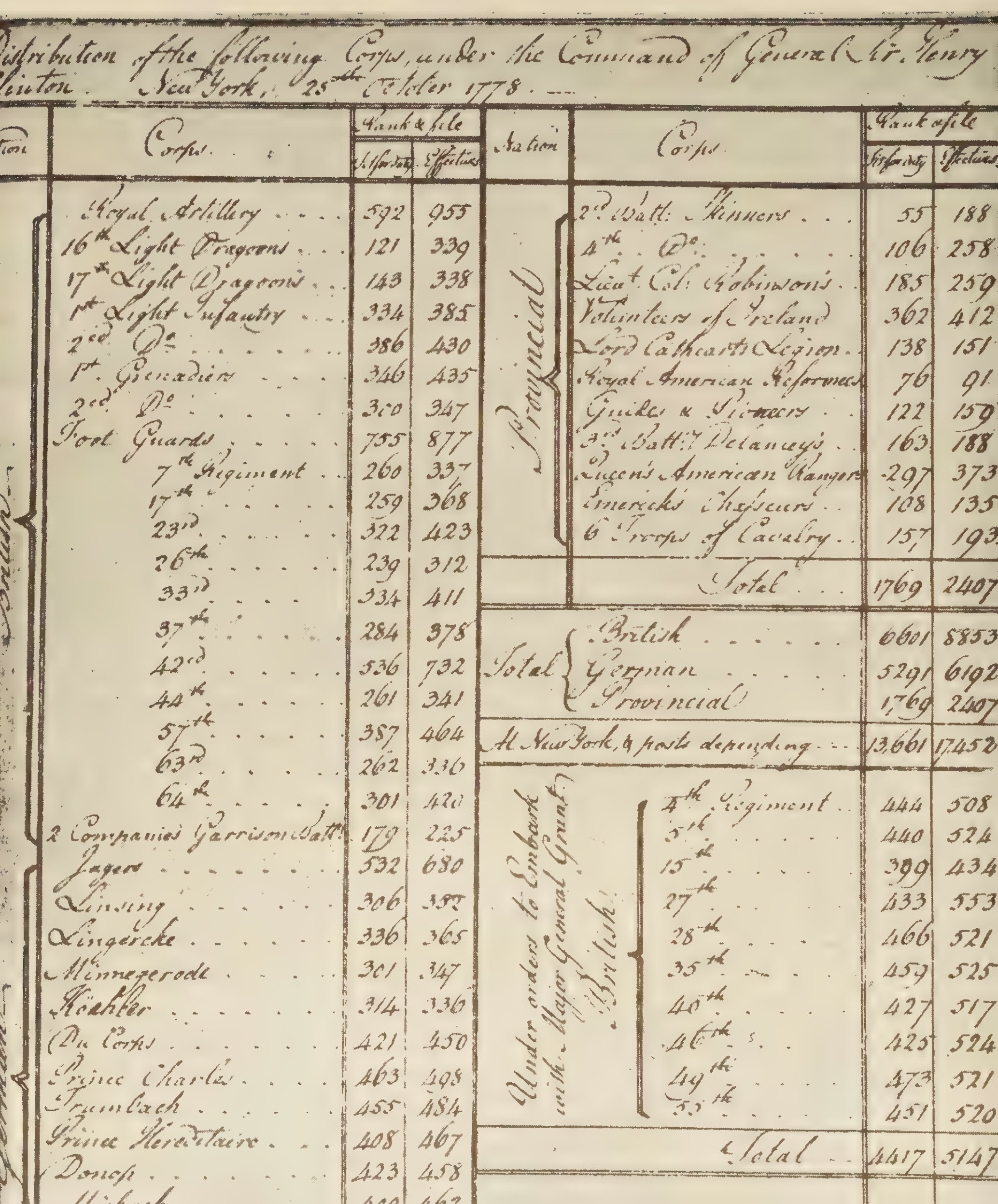
20th — Good weather. Wind S. W.

Came in a Brig from Newfoundland with fish.

There is a person on board who left England the 1st Septr. No declaration of war then. The Engagement between the British & French fleets off Ushant, had been very indecisive. No ship taken or deſtroyed on either side.

21st Very fine weather. Wind S. W.

Arrived an Armed Sloop from New York, with Coals for the use of this Garrison.



istribution of the following Corps, under the Command of General Sir Henry
linton. New York, 25th October 1778. —

tion	Corps	Rank & file Fit for duty	Rank & file Effectives
	Royal Artillery	592	955
	16th Light Dragoons	121	339
	17th Light Dragoons	143	338
	1st Light Infantry	334	385
	2nd Do.	386	430
	1st Grenadiers	346	435
	2nd Do.	300	347
	Foot Guards	755	877
	7th Regiment	260	337
	17th	259	368
	23rd	322	423
	26th	239	312
	33rd	334	411
	37th	284	378
	42nd	536	732
	44th	261	341
	57th	357	464
	63rd	262	336
	64th	301	420
	2 Companies Garrison Batt.	179	225
	Jagers	532	680
	Linsing	306	355
	Lingercke	336	365
	Minnegerode	301	347
	Koehler	314	336
	Du Corps	421	450
	Prince Charles	463	498
	Trumbach	455	484
	Prince Hereditaire	408	467
	Donop	423	458
	Mirbach	400	462
	Losberg	279	454
	Knyphausen	303	466
	Artillery	350	373

Nation	Corps	Rank & file Fit for duty	Rank & file Effectives
Provincial	2nd Batt: Skinners	55	188
	4th Do.	106	258
	Lieut. Col: Robinson's	185	259
	Volunteers of Ireland	362	412
	Lord Cathcart's Legion	138	151
	Royal American Reformees	76	91
	Guides & Pioneers	122	159
	3rd Batt. Delancey's	163	188
	Queen's American Rangers	297	373
	Emerick's Chasseurs	108	135
	6 Troops of Cavalry	157	193
	Total	1769	2407
Total	British	6601	8853
	German	5291	6192
	Provincial	1,769	2407
At New York, & posts depending		13,661	17452
Under orders to Embark with Major General Grant. British	4th Regiment	444	508
	5th	440	524
	15th	399	434
	27th	433	553
	28th	466	521
	35th	459	525
	40th	427	517
	46th	425	524
	49th	473	521
	55th	451	520
	Total	4417	5147

22d Clear fine day. Wind N. W.

A flag of truce came down this Morning from Warwick neck. By some papers she has brought, it appears that the Island of Dominica was taken by the French from Martinico, the 7th Septr.

23rd Good weather. Wind N.

Three Soldiers of the 54th Regt deserted this day from the Advanced poſt at Howland's bridge; they got safe to the point, before they could be pursued.

24th Cloudy day. Wind N.

The Rebels have been remarkably quiet for some time paſt. They are ſtill encamped at Howland's ferry, and are employed in building a large barrack, in the rear of their Camp.

200 men pr day, are employed on our side, and on the Fort near Banniſter's.

The above Fort is to have 10 pieces of heavy cannon in it. I think it is wrong placed, tho' on the proper ground. The guns are placed on the curtains, and not on the Baſtions; and command very little. Those on the principal front, command the bottom between the Eaſt and Weſt roads, only. If the work had been turned a little more to the left, one front would have commanded all the ground about Potters chimneys, the moſt advantageous spot to erect batteries againſt our left, and another would have faced the heights where the Rebels raised their batteries during the siege. As it is at present, only one gun placed in a flank (and this done after the defect was observed) sees the Chimneys, and only one fires on the heights to the right. Many More defects might easily be pointed out in this work. It is a square Fort, with Baſtions.

One great defect is, that the Capitals of the two Baſtions next the Enemy being produced, would fall upon the very ground where the Enemy in case of a siege, would erect their batteries againſt it.

25th Octr 1778 Cloudy weather, but mild and pleasant. Wind N.

A flag of truce came from Warwick this Morning, with paſsports from Genl Heath, and Count D'Eſtaing, for the veſsels with the baggage of the Convention army, to go round to Boſton.

Diſtribution of the following Corps, under the Command of General Sir Henry Clinton.
New York, 25th October 1778.

Nation	Corps	Rank & file	
		Fit for duty	Effectives
British	Royal Artillery	592	955
	16th Light Dragoons	121	939
	17th Light Dragoons	143	338
	1st Light Infantry	334	385
	2d Do	386	430
	1st Grenadiers	346	435
	2d Do	300	347
	Foot Guards	755	877
	7th Regiment	260	337
	17th	259	368
	23rd	322	423
	26th	239	312
	33rd	334	411
	37th	284	378
	42d	536	732
	44th	261	341
	57th	387	464
	63rd	262	336
	64th	301	420
	2 Companies Garrison Battn	179	225
German	Jagers	532	680
	Linsing	306	352
	Lingercke	336	365
	Minnegerode	301	347
	Köehler	314	336
	Du Corps	421	450
	Prince Charles	463	498
	Trumbach	455	484
	Prince Hereditaire	408	467
	Donop	423	458
	Mirbach	400	462
	Losberg	279	454
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	28th	466	521
	35th	459	525
	40th	427	517
	46th	425	524
	49th	473	521
	55th	451	520
	Total	4417	5147

Nation	Corps	Rank & file		Stations
		Fit for duty	Effectives	
British	Royal Artillery	100	117	At Rhode Island
	17th Dragoons	11	13	
	22d Regiment	308	389	
	38th	280	335	
	43rd	401	455	
	54th	427	480	
	Flank Comps 38th	87	110	
	54th	100	111	
		1714	2010	
German	Landgrave	369	456	
	Ditfourth	416	520	
	Huyne	329	505	
	Bunau	426	515	
	1st Anspach	323	377	
	2d Anspach	344	396	
	Artillery	120	123	
		2354	2892	
Provincial	Prince of Wales Volrs	197	337	
	King's American Regt	286	419	
	Loyal New Englanders	76	82	
		559	838	
	Total at Rhode Island	4627	5740	
German	Seitz	392	439	Embarked for Halifax
Provincial	Kings Orange Rangers	159	207	
		551	646	

Nation	Corps	Rank & file			Stations
		Fit for duty	Effectives		
German	Waldeck	551	660		Embarked for Florida N. B. The 1st Battn of Skinners were relanded on Staten Island, after this was made out.
Provincial	Allen's	146	165		
	Chalmers	244	277		
		941	1102		
British	71st	827	1159	Under the Command of Lieut Col: Campbell	
German	Wasenbach	386	436		
	late, Rall's	311	471		
Provincial	1st Delaney's	253	323		
	2d D°	100	217		
	1st Skinners	198	354		
	3rd D°	154	379		
	New York Volunteers	259	318		
		2488	3657		
	Total	3429	4759		

Recapitulation

	Rank & file	
	Fit for duty	Effectives
At New York Island, Long-Island, Staten Island, & Paulus hook	13661	17452
At Rhode-Island	4627	5740
Embarked for Halifax	551	646
Embarked under the Command of Major General Grant	4417	5147
Embarked for Florida	3429	4759
Total Army	26685	33744

26th Very fine day. Wind N.

27th — Clear fine weather. Wind S. W.

Arrived the King George Privateer, with a Prize taken off Long-Island loaded with Staves, hoops, and live ſtock.

The above Privateer has also taken a veſsel with tobacco, supposed to be worth £5000.

28th Fine day. Wind N.

The live ſtock taken in the prize brought in yeſterday, was sold this day by Auction. Pigs sold for about 4^{d} a l^{b} alive. Turkeys, from 8s/ to 14s/ each. Fowls from 25s/ to 40s/ p^{r} dozen.

29th Fine weather. Wind S. E.

The Galley of ours ſtationed off Black point in the Seconnet paſsage and mounted 8, 12p^{rs}, 2, 18 p^{rs}, besides Swivels, was surprized this morning about 2 o'Clock, by the Rebels, who boarded and took her with little or no resiſtance. They immediately cut her cable, and Stood out to Sea with her. Two vessels were seen early this Morning in company with the Galley, off the Seconnet, Standing towards point Judith. The King George Privateer went out in Chace of them but they got clear off towards New London.

30th Very fine day. Wind W.

It being suggeſted to the General, by some who are much alarmed at the surprizal of the Galley, that the Rebels have done it previous to a descent upon the Island, and that they might succeed in surprizing even the town; he gave orders this day for the Guard at Eaſton's beach Redoubt, to consiſt of an Off^{r} and 24 men; for the Landgraves Reg^{t} to march toMorrow from Turkey hill, and encamp on Honeyman's hill: the Chasseurs to return to thier former ground near Bowlers; a Cap^{t} and 50 from the Flank Corps to be poſted on the S. E. coaſt; a Sub and 20 at Weaver's on the Weſt road: a Cap^{t} and 50 for this night on Honeyman's hill; and for all the Guards and Picquets to be under arms an hour before day.

I should be sorry the Enemy knew we were alarmed so much at so trifling a circumſtance, as things are now situated. It is highly probable they knew the people on board the Galley were negligent in their duty, which might induce them to undertake the Enterprize. Or perhaps knowing her to be the only armed veſsel we had in the Seconnet, they attempted her in order to open that paſsage for their veſsels going with Lumber to the West Indies, and those coming from the Southward with provisions for the French Fleet at Boston.

There is not the least appearance of any design upon the Island; no armed veſsels, or any number of boats or men, more than usual, are to be seen on the Opposite side or in our Neighbourhood. The Sphynx was ordered to move from the North point of Conanicut, to her former Station off Arnold's point.

31st Heavy Rain from 2 this morning 'till 12 this day. Wind N. E.

The Landgrave's Regiment marched this Morning at day break to Honeyman's hill, and the Chaſseurs to Bowler's, where they encamped.

A Rebel sloop went past Fogland ferry to Sea, at 6 this Morning, — 12 or 13 shot were fired at her, but without any apparent effect.

We are left at present in a Strange situation: Two of the three paſsages are entirely open to the Enemy. The winter advancing, & no provision made for the supplying the Garrison with firing. Only two frigates in this Station, so that we are a good deal exposed to the Enemys Naval force, and utterly unable to send a proper Convoy with the veſsels for wood to Long-Island. No Barracks provided, no materials to fit up any, nor any Straw for the troops either while in the field, or when they come into quarters. Indeed this Garrison appears on the whole, to have been very much neglected for some time past.

A Flag of truce came from Providence last night; in her came some persons who report that a 2d Engagement is said to have happened the 7th Septr between the English and French Fleets off Brest.

The Rebels have taken the September Packet.

Admiral Byron sailed the 16th Octr from Sandy hook, with 16 Sail of the line, to cruize off Boston for the French fleet under D'Estaing.

A Soldier of the 54th deserted last night from the Advanced posts.

1st Novr Rain last night. Fair morning. Wind N. E. Rain from 1 o'Clock 'till night. High wind at N. E. Cold day.

3 Soldiers of the 54th deserted last night from the Advanced posts.

2d Heavy rain and Strong gale of wind from the N. E. all last night and this day. Cold, raw weather. Most of the tents blown down, or torn to pieces.

A large batteaux was driven over to our shore near the Advanced posts, last night from Howland's ferry.

A boat belonging to some poor Indians which came to the Pearl last night from Block Island, and was detained there, sunk alongside in the gale, and 18 hogs and some other articles which they had on board, was entirely lost.

3rd — Clear fine day. Cold S. W. wind.

By a flag from Providence we learn that the Congreſs have come to a Resolution of removing the Convention troops from Rutland, to Albemarle County in Virginia. This is done under pretence of subsisting, and providing for them with more ease; but is, in fact only another artifice to induce the Soldiers to desert the service of their Country.

The cloathing and other neceſsaries for those troops, is now in the harbour, and was on the point of going round from hence to Boston, for their accomodation during the approaching winter: this was well known to the Rebels, but they wish to harraſs them as much as poſsible and are now going to oblige them to march above 600 miles, without cloathing, or shoes.

4th — Fine day. Wind W. A Rebel brig went out by the Seconnet paſsage last night. There was a Sloop in company with her, but she was obliged to put back, by the fire of our battery at Fogland ferry.

The Carysfort frigate arrived off the harbour this day with 10 sail of victuallers, &c., from New York. Five of the veſsels got in this Evening. The Frigate still without.

5th — A Sudden gust of wind and hail about 6 this Morning from the Westward. Rain about 10 oClock. High wind at N.W, and clear weather the latter part of the day.

The 2^{d} Battalion of Anspach marched this day from Windmill-hill, and took up the ground lately occupied by the Landgrave's Regiment on Turkey hill.

A Rebel veſsel went out of the Seconnet paſsage laſt night. Seven men of Browne's Reg^{t} deserted from Conanicut laſt night, in a boat which had been careleſsly left on the shore.

The Carysfort and the reſt of the veſsels came in this Morning.

M^{r} Geddes, Dep^{y} Paymaſter Gen^{l} of the Convention army was juſt going away to Cambridge this Morning with 10,000 Guineas for the use of the troops there, when an order was received by the Carysfort not to send any money to that army 'till further orders, so that he was obliged to return the Guineas, and go off without them. This muſt be a great disappointment to the troops; but 'tis certain, if we had never supplied that army with Money, and the Congreſs had been informed (after they broke the Convention and refused to let them embark) that we should look upon them as Prisoners of War, and that they might treat them as such, we should by this time have had greateſt part of that army exchanged; & the immense expence attending them in thier present situation would have been avoided. That army has proved a mine of Gold to the Rebels, and the quantity of Cash thrown into circulation by their means, has in a great measure kept up the value of the paper currency, and enabled them to make remittances which has given them some credit with foreign nations.

We learn by the Carysfort, that an Expedition, consiſting of 10 British Regiments, viz^{t} The 4th, 5th, 15th, 27th, 28th, 35th, 40th, 46th, 49th, and 55th, with two Companies of Artillery; under the Command of Major Gen^{l} Grant, Brigadiers, Prescott, Meadows, and Calder; with 6 sail of the line, and some frigates, under the Command of Commadore Hotham, sailed from Sandyhook the 3rd Nov^{r}. Their deſtination is a secret, but tis generally imagined they are gone to the Weſt Indies. I think tis probable that Barbadoes is to be their rendezvous. Some troops are also under orders for embarkation, supposed for S^{t} Augustine.

The Army is preparing to take up their winter quarters, at Kingsbridge and the three Islands. The Guards, Royal Welch, and Heſsian Grenadiers to compose the Garrison of New York. The other troops to be hutted at their different Stations.

6th Novr Froſt laſt night. Ice about the thickneſs of a Dollar. Fine day. Wind N. W.

Sailed a Privateer sloop for New York. Capt Seix, 22d Regt went in her.

At 12 oClock 7 Sail of small veſsels came round Point Judith, before night 5 of them went into Narrow River, on the Naraganset side: the other two returned, and seemed to be Privateers.

7th Novr Rain early this morning, which continued with unusual violence till 10 this day. Wind E. S. E. The remainder of the day fair with a S. W. wind.

Two Small Rebel Privateers were taken off this port yeſterday and brought in here this day by the Pearl's tender. They mount 4 Carriage guns and some Swivels each, and have about 40 men on board the two.

A Mr Franks came here this day in a flag of truce from Providence. He was a paſsenger on board the Harriet Packet, which had the Septr mail on board, and was taken the 14th Septr (7 days after they sailed) by a Rebel Privateer of 20 Guns. The Mail was thrown over board and sunk.

8th — Fine clear day. Wind N. E.

Sailed the Carysfort on a Cruize.

Intelligence was received yeſterday, that the Rebels have a number of boats, and one or two armed veſsels ready fitted at Providence for some secret attempt, that a number of Volunteers are engaged for it, and from their succeſs in surprizing the galley, and other circumſtances, it is imagined they have a design on the Sphynx. In consequence of this, as the Sphynx is but weakly manned, an Officer and 30 men of the 43rd and 54th, were sent on board her this day, she was ordered to anchor nearer to Arnold's point, and the Light Artillery at Windmill was ordered to move down to the point with the utmoſt expedition in case of alarm, to aſsiſt her.

9th — Rain from 6 this morning 'till 1 oClock. Wind S. W. Fair afternoon. Wind N.

The troops encamped suffer a good [deal] at present from the badneſs of the weather; particularly as they are totally without Straw; as indeed they have been during the whole Campaign.

The Matts which were made at the commencement of the Campaign, from the damaged hay, were entirely rotten and unserviceable after the firſt month.

Most of the Straw was destroyed previous to, and during the siege. At present there is not more in the Magazine, than will serve the troops at their first coming into quarters, and furnish the hospitals during the winter.

10th Novr 1778 Fine weather. Wind N.

Last night and early this morning, arrived a fleet of 8 wood veſsels, and 4 trading veſsels from Long Island and New York, under convoy of the Halifax armed brig. The above veſsels have brought 200 Cord of wood, and 30 Chaldrons of Coals (equal to 90 Cord of wood) for the use of this Garrison.

A flag of truce came down last night from Providence. By some persons who came in her, we learn, that D'Estaing's fleet Sailed from Boston the 4th Novr. Byron's fleet having been dispersed by violent gales of wind the 1st and 3rd Instant, D'Estaing has in all probability escaped him.

The Rebels say that the Somerset of 64 Guns, one of Byron's fleet, was cast ashore on Cape Cod the 3rd Novr, and totally lost, with 60 of the Crew; the rest prisoners.

They also say that there has been a 2d Engagement between the fleets in Europe, in which 11 French ships were taken and destroyed.

11th Novr — Heavy Rain from 8 this morning, during the whole day. Strong gale of wind at E. S. E.

Much is to be dreaded at present from D'Estaing's fleet. His destination is entirely a Secret; but I think, from his having sailed the day after General Grants Expedition left Sandy hook, his intelligence that they were most probably going to the West Indies, his knowledge of the mischief they may do among the French Islands there, and the probability (should he be so fortunate as to miſs Admiral Byron's fleet) of his destroying them before they arrive at their destination; it is almost past a doubt that he is gone in pursuit of them. Every thing is to be feared should he escape Byron; for as so large a fleet as that under Commadore Hotham, cannot poſsibly get forward with so much Expedition as D'Estaing's; which undoubtedly has been cleaned as much as poſsible at Boston; he must neceſsarily overtake them, and they must be fortunate indeed if they do not fall into his hands. The consequences to our West India Islands will be dreadful.

12th — Fine day. Fresh wind at W.

Came in the Cornwall, 74 Guns, one of Admiral Byron's fleet. She parted with 11 sail the 3rd Inst about 35 leagues off Boston bay.

The Bedford lost her Fore, and Mizen Masts, & Main topmast, the 1st Novr in a violent gale of wind, & is supposed to have gone to New York.

Three men of Brown's Regiment deserted yesterday.

13th Novr — Fine weather. Wind S. S. E. Some frost this Morning.

At 7 this morning 10 sail of large ships were discovered to the S. E. of Block Island, Standing for this harbour. It was in general concluded they were Admiral Byron's fleet; but as it was prudent to be prepared for all events, orders were given for all the batteries to be manned, and every thing in readineſs for the reception of an Enemy. According Seamen were sent to the Batteries at Goat Island, Brenton's point, and the North battery. A Captain and 50 of the 38th Regt were also sent to the latter.

About 11 oClock the private signal agreed upon was made, which was answered by the fleet, and soon after they shewed their colours, and we saw Admiral Byron's blue flag at the Fore topmast head. At 12 they paſsed the battery at Brentons point, Admiral Byron leading in, in the Princeſs Royal of 90, then Rear Admiral Parker in the Grafton, 74, and then Commadore Graves in the Conqueror, 74, followed by the rest of the fleet, in a line ahead.

By one o'Clock they all anchored under the Conanicut shore, from the Ferry to Taylor's point. The ships do not appear to have received any damage in the late gales.

Came in the Nautilus's tender from New York, with dispatches for the General.

14th — Rain all last night with a S. E. wind. Strong wind all day at S. W. Some hail. Fair and clear.

The harbour was so rough this day, that hardly any boat could paſs between the ships and the town.

15th — Fair and Cold. Very high wind all last night and this day at W.

The ships of Admiral Byron's fleet now in this harbour are, The Princeſs Royal, Royal Oak, Grafton, Conqueror, Fame, Trident, Raisonable, Albion, Sultan, Cornwall, and Renown.

16th Novr Strong gale of wind at W. all last night (except from 3 to 4, when it was a dead calm) and all this day 'till 4 in the Afternoon when it fell. Clear cold day.

Capt Wheelock of the Sultan, who died the morning the Ship came into this harbour, was buried this day with Naval & Military honours. At 11 the barge with the body left the ship, attended by all the Captains of the fleet in their barges: it was received at the end of the Long wharf, by the Regiment of Ditfourth: (with their Colours); from thence the proceſsion was made in the usual manner, to the Church, the body was taken into the Church, and the service read there, after which it was brought out and interred near the North door. When the body was deposited the Regiment fired 3 Vollies.

From the time the body left the ship 'till it entered the Church door, minute guns were fired by the Sultan. The Pall was supported by 8 Captains of the Navy.

A Soldier of Ditfourth's Regiment was through careleſsneſs, wounded in the head by a buckshot.

D'Estaing certainly sailed from Boston the 4th Novr; two vessels that came out with him, were taken by Byron's fleet. The Master of one of them said they were bound for the West Indies; the other would not acknowledge that he knew anything about their destination. The 5th Novr The Diamond made a Signal for seeing 4 large sail of the Enemys fleet, steering S. E.; the Admiral made the Signal for the Ships in company to Chace, but a very thick fog coming on they lost them.

The heavy gales of wind which Admiral Byron's fleet has met with since their leaving New York; want of water, wood and Provisions sufficient to enable him to follow D'Estaing to the West Indies, should he have taken that course; together with the sickly state of some of the ships, and the seperation of others, obliged him to come into this port. As soon as ever the weather permits, all the boats here, are to be employed in watering the ships.

Four sail of ships were seen to the S. E. of this port yesterday Evening: supposed to be the miſsing ships of Admiral Byron's fleet.

17th — Fine weather, and moderate. Wind W.

The wood fleet having been now detained here a month for want of Convoy, the General went on board to the Admiral this

Morning, who appointed the Sphynx to go out with the fleet, and see them safe into Huntington bay, up the Sound.

The Halifax brig of 12 Guns, a tender belonging to the Halifax, and a tender of the Nautilus, also goes with the wood fleet, but as the Rebels have some very stout Privateers at New London, they are not sufficient for its protection.

The Pearl sailed this morning, said to be for the West Indies. A Party of an officer and 30 men of the Landgrave's, and the like number from Ditfourth's Regiment; were ordered in to town this day, to take poſseſsion of the houses appointed for their barracks, and to repair and fit them up.

18th Novr Thick weather, and some Rain. Wind E.

The Diamond came in last night from New York, by way of the Sound, with dispatches for Admiral Byron.

The men of the 71st and several other Corps, who have been here since the beginning of October, embarked this day on board the veſsels going to New York.

A Flag of truce this day from Providence. The first Divisions of the British and German, Convention troops, marched from Rutland and Cambridge, the 9th, 10th, & 11th Inst for Virginia.

Generals Phillips and Reidesel are detained at Cambridge by the Rebels as hostages for the payment of money due by the troops, for their Subsistence there, and which, by the Stoppage of money from hence they have been unable to discharge.

A Soldier of the 54th deserted last night from the advanced post at Howland's bridge.

Parties from the two Anspach Battalions came into town, in order to repair their barracks.

The Sphynx being ordered to convoy the wood fleet past New-London, she this Evening landed the party of 30 men which were put on board her the 8th Inst, and came down to Goat-Island. She is to be replaced by the Renown.

Certain accounts of the Somerset's being totally lost off Cape Cod — 60 of the people drowned, the rest prisoners.

The Bedford has got into New York, with the loſs of her, Fore, & Mizen masts, and Main topmast.

19th Novr The Signal was made for the Sailing of the Fleet for the Sound, early this morning, but the wind being very variable, and it appearing likely to Snow, they did not go out.

Some Snow about 11; Wind E.

The 38th Regiment came into quarters this day.

Two men came in this morning from Bedford in a small boat; one of them is a Corporal in the 9th Regt; the other a Loyaliſt: they left Cambridge a few days ago.

Parties from the Flank Corps, 43rd, and Fanning's Regiment came to town this morning to fit up their barracks.

The Diamond having brought an order from Sr Henry Clinton, for the Convention army's being supplied with money to clear off some demands upon them at Cambridge; Mr Geddes, the Depty Paymaſter Genl of that army, received 10,000 Guineas this morning, and went off with it for Cambridge. On his arrival there, the two Generals will be permitted to follow the troops.

Some boats came in laſt night from Block Island, with 14 quarters of beef, 32 Turkies, and some other provisions, which were all taken up by Admiral Byron's ships.

20th — Slight froſt laſt night. Good weather. Wind N. W.

The fleet sailed this morning; conſiſting of about 40 sail of veſsels of all kinds, for New York, and Long-Island under Convoy of the Sphynx, and Halifax brig. They had got as far as Point Judith, by three o'Clock, when the wind coming more round to the Weſtward they were obliged to put back, and before night they all came to anchor in the harbour. Many of the wood veſsels belonging to the Inhabitants not being furnished with proper ground tackle, could not venture to anchor without Goat Island, and were therefore obliged to run along side the wharfs within.

A man of the 1st Battalion of Anspach, deserted yeſterday from the Advanced poſt, near Briſtol ferry; as did two of the 54th, this day from Howlands bridge.

21st Novr Hard froſt laſt night. Ice above an Inch thick. Wind N. W. Fine clear day. The wind coming round to the N. about 9 this Morning, the fleet for the Sound got under way, and by 1 oClock they were all out. Cold wind all day, and hard froſt.

Great depredations having been committed on the barracks laſt summer, particularly during the time of the siege, when very little attention was given to them; they are now in so bad a State, that many of them muſt be pulled down in order to repair the others; and many places are now taken for barracks that were not used as such laſt winter.

From the number of houses at this Moment habitable in this town, and the number of troops to be quartered in it; (the former being about 700, and the latter amounting to about 4000) it would not appear by any means difficult to quarter the troops with great convenience; especially when it is considered that all the public buildings (some of the churches included) are occupied as barracks or hospitals, and that many families, from the difficulty of being supplied during the winter with provisions and fuel, are gone, and others going, to the Main — but the Method of quartering troops in America, is in every particular totally different from what I have ever seen. From the circumſtances of affairs at Boſton, there was a neceſsity of providing, empty houses, Stores, and such other places as could be hired, for the use of the troops, since when the same method seems in great measure to be followed tho' the circumſtances are totally changed. If from 6 to 12 men, besides Officers, according to the size, and conveniencies, were quartered in each house in this town, the troops would be exceedingly well quartered, without any expence to Government, except fire and Candle; and such numbers of houses would not have been pulled down, and such an immense exposure incurred, to provide the troops with very uncomfortable barracks. It is unfortunately become the intereſt of some men to have as much as poſsible of the Governments money go thro' their hands: regardleſs of every other consideration.

22d Novr Very hard froſt laſt night. Fresh wind at N. Ice above two inches thick.

Two men made their escape laſt night from the Rebel Prison ship in Providence river, and getting a small boat, they came down the bay; they came along side a veſsel near the North battery, before day break this Morning, without having been met with or Challenged by any person. This shews what mischief might be done by a few enterprizing fellows, who after doing their buſineſs might effect their escape by going out of the harbour.

An Officer and 20 men of Huynes Regiment, marched out this day to Quaker hill, to take poſseſsion of their quarters in that neighbourhood.

23rd Novr Hard froſt. Wind N. N. W.

Came in an Armed brig, taken by the Culloden, who was parted with the 16th Inst in Boſton bay, all well, and had three other prizes in Company. This brig was taken from us by the French fleet, when they lay off Sandy hook. She mounts 14 Guns, and had the 1st Lieu^{t} of the Languedoc, and 70 French Seamen on board when she was taken by the Culloden.

Several Seamen came in last night, and 4 this day, who have made their escape from the prison ship in Providence River.

There is no account yet of D'Estaing's fleet. Several fast sailing frigates, and 20-Gun Copper bottom ships, are out for intelligence; some of whom are hourly expected in here. It is supposed Admiral Byron will not leave this port, until he has received some certain intelligence of the course the French fleet has steered. The Culloden is hourly expected; as is the Monmouth from New York. If the Brest fleet should have been defeated in a Second Action, which 'tis said has happened, 'tis highly probable D'Estaing will immediately go to Europe. But from the greatneſs of the object, I think tis certain he is gone in pursuit of Gen^{l} Grant's Expedition.

24th Nov^{r} — Fine weather. Hard frost. Wind N.

The Landgrave's Regiment broke up camp this Morning from Honeyman's hill, and marched into their quarters in town.

A great abuse has lately crept in, in the Comiſsary and Barrack Master's departments. They have by one means or other, got a number of Waggons, and Carts in their poſseſsion, which they call their own property, and by employing them constantly in the Service of Government, are paid for the hire of them at 2 Dollars a day for a Cart and two Oxen, or a Waggon and two horses, and one dollar for a Single horse Cart. By this means they employ them on every trivial occasion, and the forage for the Cattle, and provisions for the Drivers, are an additional expence to Government. For the Carraiges of the Inhabitants, were paid for only at the usual hire, and had no allowance of forage or provisions.

It also weakens the Regt^{s} as many Soldiers are employed as drivers.

25th Nov^{r} Clear weather. Hard frost. Wind N.

The frost for some days past has been more severe than is usual at this Season. Bottles of water in the house have frozen. Little or nothing could be done at Fort Fanning.

Fanning's Reg^{t}, the Flank Companies and Chaſseurs marched into quarters this day. The 22d Regiment also decamped, and went into their Cantonments, at Fogland, Elam's and Lopez's. The 54th Regt also broke up camp, and went into their barracks at Windmill hill, and the other barracks near the Advanced posts. The Detachment of Artillery at the North end of the Island, went into their quarters at the Artillery Redoubt.

Huyne's Regiment marched from their Camp near Newport this day, and took up their Cantonments in the Neighbourhood of Quaker hill.

Arrived the Sphynx from the Sound, having seen the fleet safe into Huntington bay.

26th Frost. Clear, pleasant weather. Wind N. W.

The 1st Battalion of Anspach marched into quarters this day from Windmill hill. They did not arrive in town 'till near 5 oClock in the afternoon.

Two Rebel boats crofsed over from Seconnet point this Morning before day, and landed about 20 men at Sachawest point. They placed their boats among the Rocks so that they could not be seen from any of our posts, and concealed themselves in a house upon the point, inhabited by a Negro and his wife. They came with a view of carrying off such Officers and Soldiers as usually go to that point to shoot wild fowl. Two Soldiers of Fanning's Regiment who were safe Guards in the neighbourhood, and went down to shoot, were taken by them. Several Inhabitants of the Island, who were down there at the same time, they did not meddle with, only telling them they came there to carry off such as were in arms against them. They went off about 3 oClock, with their two prisoners. It was near 4 oClock before the matter was made known to the General, when it was too late to attempt pursuing them.

27th — Mild weather. Frost, but very slight. Wind S. W.

The 43rd Regiment marched into quarters this Morning from Quaker hill.

Two Block Island boats came in last night, with 24 qrs of good beef, some Mutton, Cheese, pigs, fowls, &c.

The General in order to deter the Rebels from coming on the Island and kidnapping our people, for the future; sent an Officer and 20 men this Morning to burn the house on Sachawest point, that the Rebels may have no cover there, & to shew the Inhabitants, that every house where they land, & they do not discover them, shall be treated in the like manner: which the General is determined to do.

The Negro was allowed to take every thing valuable, out of the house.

28th Novr Slight froſt laſt night. Fine Mild day. Wind W.

Came in the Thames from New York, by way of the Sound. No arrivals from Europe, nor any account of D'Eſtaings fleet.

The Renown went up this day to Arnold's point.

The 2d Battalion of Anspach came into quarters this day.

A Rebel Commiſsary came down this day to negociate an exchange of Prisoners taken by our Navy, 180 of whom are now confined in Jail in town, and suffering greatly from Sickneſs, & want of cloathing. The Admiral is to get an equal number of the crew of the Somerset, lately loſt near Cape Cod.

The Commiſsioners (Lord Carlisle, and Mr Eden) were to sail from New York for England, a few days after the Thames left it. Lord Cornwallis was also to go with them.

The late Manifeſto published by the Commiſsioners has apparently had very little effect on the Rebels. The Congreſs have published an answer, but it is a performance very inferior to their former publications of that nature.

29th Mild weather. No froſt. Wind W.

Bunau's Regiment broke up Camp this day, and marched to their Cantonments on the Weſt side of the Island.

The troops are now all disposed of in their quarters, and Cantonments.

Brown's Regt of Provincials, is Stationed on Conanicut; and is hutting on the ground on which they were encamped.

180 Rebel prisoners went on board a veſsel this Evening, in order to go up to Providence, to be exchanged.

'Tis said Mr Sullivan has given his honour, that so many of the Somerset's people shall be sent down immediately; but as they know how much Admiral Byron's ships want men, and that he expects to go to Sea every day, I think Mr Sullivan will delay sending the people 'till Admiral Byron has sailed. We should not have truſted them, and should have inſiſted on our men being brought down before we gave up theirs.

30th Novr Rain all laſt night, and high wind at W.

N. Wind this Morning, and Rain 'till 4 in the afternoon, soon after which it cleared up with a N. W. wind, and there was a smart froſt.

The Army at New York being a good deal distressed for hay, a quantity is to be sent from hence in veſsels under convoy of the Thames.

They are very anxious at New York for the arrival of the provision fleet from Cork, — The Navy there are at 2/3 rds allowance.

1st Decr Hard frost, with a N. W. wind till 11 oClock last night, when the wind changed to the W. and brought rain and a thaw. S. Wind at 8 this Morning, when the weather cleared up, and it proved a fine soft day.

A Flag of truce from Providence yesterday. Some women who came down in it say, they saw it mentioned in a Boston paper that the troops under General Grant had landed in Georgia, and taken poſseſsion of that part of the Country: but no particulars mentioned.

Admiral Byron's fleet is still here. They are ready for Sea except requiring a further supply of provisions. The Admiral is extreamly anxious for the arrival of the Culloden, which was expected in some days ago. The Aeriel which was ordered to observe the motions of D'Estaing's fleet, is hourly expected with some account of them.

Many of the ships of Admiral Byron's fleet are extreamly sickly, the Sultan in particular landed above 130 Sick, — A large Meeting house, which was made use of as an hospital, is now full of Seamen, many of whom are reduced to meer Skeletons.

The Sultan, tho a new ship, was so dirty between decks, and so little care taken to preserve the health of her men, that it was no wonder so many of them were ill. Captain Fielding late of the Diamond, has now got the Sultan, in the room of Captain Wheelock deceased, and has already made a great alteration on board her.

Since the Sick have been on shore they have recovered surprizingly, by being supplied with fresh provisions and vegetables; and breathing a pure air.

This fleet has certainly been hitherto unfortunate. Never was a fleet of capital ships so completely dispersed as they were, soon after their leaving England. The Ruſsel put back to England; the Invincible put into Newfoundland; the Albion, to Lisbon; the Cornwall to New York; the Princeſs Royal and Culloden to Halifax; and at last, the remainder of the ships arrived at

New York. I believe they sailed from England the 9th of June; if 5 or 6 of them had joined Lord Howe by the 9th of August, D'Estaing's fleet would have run the utmost risque. When refitted at New York, Admiral Byron sailed from thence with 14 sail of the line to cruize off Boston, his fleet was dispersed by a Storm the 3rd Novr, and D'Estaing put to Sea the 4th, and escaped. 'Tis to be hoped he may yet fall in with, and give a good account of D'Estaing before he can get back to France.

An Officer and 50 men of Fanning's Regiment, marched into the Country this day, in order to cut wood on the Island for the supply of the Garrison. Every thing, but fruit trees, is to be cut down.

It is become absolutely neceſsary to make some provision for the supply of the Garrison with fuel; there not being above 4 weeks fuel in the Magazine, and no prospect of being supplied from without with a sufficient quantity for the winters consumption.

A Soldier of the 54th deserted last night from the Advanced posts. A Guard boat belonging to the Renown, was run away with last night by the people in her. The person who commanded her was a Midshipman, but had been formerly Master of a veſsel, & was lately preſsed: several of the men (8 in all) were Americans.

2d Decr Fine mild weather. Wind W.

None of our people prisoners with the Rebels have yet been returned for those we sent up a few days ago. Notwithstanding Mr Sullivan gave his word that an equal Number of the Somerset's crew should be sent back, I think it highly probable they will not send them 'till Admiral Byron's fleet has sailed, especially as they know how much he is in want of men.

They have deceived us so often, we should now put no trust in their most solemn engagements.

By some persons lately from Providence we are informed that a body of British troops have landed in Georgia.

3rd Fine weather. Wind W. N. W.

A Schooner came in from St Augustine, 30 days paſsage, who says that the British troops there, were partly embarked, and others marched by land for Georgia, where 'twas expected they would be joined by some troops from New York.

4th Fine mild day. Wind W.

Two large veſsels were seen off this day; one of them supposed to be the Culloden; which has been for some time expected in this port.

5th Strong gale of wind last night at S. W. Thick weather this Morning, and rain from 11 oClock, which continued 'till night. Strong wind all day.

One of the veſsels seen off yesterday came in last night. She proves to be a Brig that went in October last from New York to Georgia as a flag of truce, with the Commiſsioners Manifesto, & Proclamation. She has lost her Main Mast, and met with other damage in the late gales of wind, and not being able to make New York, was obliged to put in here.

The Monmouth, 64 Guns, came in this Morning at 11 oClock, from New York. She has had 11 feet of her Main Mast cut away at New York, so that she looks a good deal crippled.

Admiral Byron's fleet was to have sailed this day had the wind been favourable. The Thames and some veſsels loaded with hay, for New York, were also to have gone out.

6th Fine weather. Fresh wind this Morning at W. N. W. at 7 oClock the signal was made for the sailing of Admiral Byron's fleet, but the wind coming more round to the Westward, about 9 oClock the Admiral made the Signal to anchor again.

This Garrison is at present very ill supplied with Fuel, Candle and Provisions. There not being more than for 14 days wood, Candles for about 7 days, and about 3 weeks flour. The troops have for a Considerable time past received Rice two days in the week instead of flour. A fleet is now out for wood, but they will not bring above 600 Cord, which is little more than two weeks consumption. Every step is taking to supply fuel: all the timber trees on the Island are cutting down, and the old wharfs will soon be broken up. Oil is to be delivered to the troops in lieu of Candles. Provisions can only be furnished from New York.

Very little attention has been paid at head quarters, New York, to the supplying this Garrison, with any of the above neceſsaries.

7th Very find mild day. Wind S. W.

A flag of truce came down last night from Providence with Capt Barrington of the 70th Regt, (formerly Aid-de-Camp to

Gen^{l} Prescott). He was taken lately on his paſsage from New York to Halifax, and carried into Boſton.

A Serj^{t} and a Private man of the 47th; and one Chace who was employed by Gen^{l} Pigot before the siege to bring intelligence and lately broke out of Taunton Jail; made their escape laſt night from the Rebels, and landed on Common fence neck.

By accounts from New York by the Monmouth, one of the Divisions of the British Convention troops, had risen on their escort on the march and dispersed themselves near Hudson's River. Some of them had got safe into New York, immediately after which a body of troops from thence went up the River in order to favour the escape of the reſt.

Some Loyaliſts up the River who had collected a quantity of arms for the aſsiſtance of the Conventioners, were discovered, and they and the arms seized.

A Rebel paper mentions, that D'Eſtaing had fallen in with the fleet which sailed with Commadore Hotham, and Gen^{l} Grant; and had sunk three transports with the 46th Regiment on board.

8th High wind all laſt night; Heavy rain from 4 this Morning 'till 12. Clear afternoon. Strong gale of wind all day at S. W.

9th — High wind laſt night, at N. W. Hard froſt. Clear day.

The wind having become moderate at 10 this Morning, & come round to the N. N. W, Admiral Byron at 12 oClock made the signal for sailing: several of the ships had paſt Brenton's-point battery by 2 oClock, when the wind shifted suddenly round to the W., and they were obliged to put back. About 4, they were all anchored again.

A sloop loaded with hay was drove ashore laſt night on the N. point of Goat Island. But will be got off, if the weather continues moderate.

The Sphynx sailed for New York.

10th — Thick weather. Wind E.

At 7 this Morning The Thames made the signal for the fleet for New York to get under way, but by the dilatorineſs of the maſters of veſsels, it was 10 oClock before they all got out of the harbour. The wind encreased with great violence after 11, and a heavy rain came on from the Eaſtward.

Admiral Byron's fleet ſtruck their yards and topmaſts.

A Soldier of Huyne's Regiment deserted laſt night from the Advanced poſt at Howland's bridge.

11th Great Storm laſt night. The wind shifted round during the night to the N, and blew with extream violence. It continued to rain 'till 11, when it turned to Snow, with a hard froſt. Clear morning, the wind Still very high.

Moſt of the ships of Admiral Byron's fleet dragged their anchors. The Albion went down as far as Brenton's point battery, and was drove within 100 yards of the shore, when she fortunately brought up. The Sultan was driven as near to the North Dumplins, and was in much danger.

A flag of truce sloop, which lay in the Cove between Brenton's point and Goat Island, was drove on shore and loſt.

Very little damage done on shore.

High wind all day, and hard froſt.

'Tis feared many of the veſsels which sailed yeſterday, will be loſt.

12th Decr The wind fell after Sunset yeſterday. Fine clear day. Hard froſt. Wind N.

Admiral Byron made a Signal for his fleet to weigh, at 11 this Morning. Three or four of them had paſt Brenton's point battery at 3 oClock, by which time the wind coming round to the Eaſtward, they were again obliged to return, and the whole fleet anchored; except the Sultan, which having got too far out to return with safety before night, went to Sea.

Fort Fanning, near Banniſter's house, is now finished. The working parties, which now conſiſt of 260 men, have been for some days employed in trenching and picketting the Abbattis in front of the outer line, and Redoubts.

Several of the old wharfs were appointed this day to the reſpective Regiments, in order to be cut up for firing.

The turf, which was made laſt Summer on Brenton's neck, is now all brought in, and has proved equal to about 100 Cord of wood. It is of an excellent quality.

13th — Rain from 12 laſt night, which continued all this day. Wind E. Thaw. The wind came round to the S. before night. Froſt quite gone.

The Sultan was not in sight this day; 'tis supposed she Stood off the Coaſt on finding the wind come round, and the weather thick.

14th Decr Clear fair day. Fresh wind at N. W.

At 10 o'Clock Admiral Byron's fleet got under way, and by 2 o'Clock they had all got out, except the Raisonable, and Renown, which are to remain on this Station.

The Deſtination of this fleet is quite unknown to us.

The ships with Admiral Byron, are, Princeſs Royal, Royal-Oak, Conqueror, Grafton, Fame, Monmouth, Albion, Sultan, Cornwall, Trident, and Diamond.

Moſt of the Seamen from the Raisonable and Renown were diſtributed on board Admiral Byron's fleet. The above ships are to get the recovered men from the hospitals, and those expected down from Providence.

Oil is now delivered to the troops in lieu of butter, at the rate of a Jill & half of oil, for Six ounces of butter.

All the Carraiges that can be collected on the Island are employed in bringing in the wood which is cut by the party out on the Island.

The provision fleet which is supposed to have sailed from Cork the end of Auguſt, or beginning of September laſt, is not yet arrived at New York. If some does not arrive soon, we shall be a good deal diſtreſsed, for several Articles.

Should D'Eſtaing fall in with the Cork fleet, we shall be reduced to great Straits.

We are all extreamly anxious for some accounts from Europe. There have been no late arrivals in our, or the Rebel, ports from Europe. The lateſt accounts from England are the beginning of September.

15th Decr 1778. Froſt. Wind N. W. Pleasant seasonable weather.

Came in French brig from Marseilles, for Cape Francois, laden with wines, fruits, and Dry goods; prize to the Dolphin Privateer of New York.

40 Invalids of General Burgoyne's army, with some Officers, came down from Providence. Another division of them is daily expected. They are men who were unable to march through the Country with the army, and are to go from hence to New York, where they expect to be exchanged, and from thence to be sent to England.

16th Froſt. Wind W. — good weather.

Came in a Sloop, a tender to the Nautilus, from New York, with letters for the Commanding Officer of the Navy here. No letters for the General; nor any account of the wood fleet, or veſsels with provisions.

17th Heavy Rain from 9 this Morning 'till night. Wind S. S. E.

Three boats came in last night from Block-Island, which brought 21 quarters of beef, 30 hogs; besides poultry, Cheese, potatoes, & wild fowl.

An excellent kind of wild ducks, called Red-heads, are brought from Block Island at this season. They are found at Block-Island only, are much like the Barnacle in England, and greatly superior to any other wild fowl killed hereabouts.

The Block-Island boats frequently bring 3, or 400 Sea fowl of different kinds. The numbers killed along the shores of this Island, are very great, and at this scarce Season, are a great relief to the poor Inhabitants. When the wind is at S. W, they are continually paſsing along the shore from Sachawest point to Brentons South point; and some men who make it their busineſs, usually shoot from 30 to 100 each, in a day.

18th Fair clear day. Strong gale of wind at W, 'till 4 in the Afternoon.

3 Officers, and about 30 men, Invalids of the Convention army, came down from Providence.

19th — Mild pleasant weather. Wind W.

The roads begin now to grow very bad; and it is with difficulty the carraiges with wood from the Country can come into town.

A Soldier of the 54th Regiment attempted to desert yesterday from the advanced post; he was perceived by two Sentries posted near the bridge, who called to him, but on his refusing to come back, they fired at him, and killed him on the spot, one ball going thro' his head, and the other into his back.

20th — Frost last night. Wind N. N. E. this Morning; but before night it came round to the S.W, and brought on a thaw.

A trading Schooner came in last night from New York. She has been for a month past at Huntington bay in the Sound, and has brought nothing new.

Lieut Collier of the Royal Artillery, Secretary to General Phillips, arrived this day from Cambridge. He is to take charge of the ships now here with the baggage of the Convention army.

70 Seamen, part of the Crew of the Somerset, came down with him.

Generals Phillips, and Reidesel, who had been detained at Cambridge, 'till the debts of Officers, of the Convention army and some other money matters were settled, are gone after the army to Virginia. Not above 1100 British remain.

21st Thick weather. Wind N. E. Some Snow towards night.

A Flag of truce came down from Providence, with Captain Barrington, of the 70th, Lieuts May and Roche of the 43rd, Lt Hart of the 54th, and the Captain and crew of the Minerva transport, one of the fleet which sailed from hence the 10th Inst under Convoy of the Thames. They were wrecked on the Connecticut shore, near Westerley the 13th Inst, and lost every thing they had.

Six other veſsels of that fleet are lost. The Thames, and 3 veſsels are said to be arrived safe at New York.

The Officers speak highly of Mr Sullivan's humanity and attention to them on their arrival at Providence; and he immediately consented to their coming here on their parole.

The Serjeant, and Private man of the Light Dragoons, who were taken by a party of the Rebels on this Island, in October 1777, came with the above Officers, having been exchanged.

22d — Snow all last night, and a Strong gale of wind at N. W. Clear day, but the wind still high, and very cold. Hard frost. About 3 Inches of Snow on the Ground.

The Renown came down from Arnold's point, having been replaced by the Raisonable.

The ships of war on this Station, (the Raisonable, and Renown) are at present very ill manned. The former has only 246 people on board, Officers included, of which only 190 are capable of duty: the latter, is not in a much better situation. It was concluded that such men as recovered in the Navy hospitals here would be turned over to the above ships, but Admiral Gambier has sent orders to Capt Dawson, who commands the Renown, to forward all such men, and all Prisoners of war to New York.

23rd Very hard frost last night, and all this day. Wind N. W.

This has been by much the Coldest day, we have had this Season.

24th Decr 1778. Very hard frost. Strong wind at N. W.

Much Ice in all the Creeks, and places not exposed to the motion of the Sea.

A Soldier of the 22d Regt, was found dead this Morning, on the road between the town & Fogland. It is thought he perished through the severity of the weather.

25th — Extreame hard frost this day. Wind N.

The Cold was greater last night and this Morning than it has been since we have been on this Island.

The harbour and all the Rivers smoaked from the intenseneſs of the Cold, so that it appeared like a fog in Summer. Port wine froze in the bottles within doors, as did all weaker liquors. Also Mustard, and all Sorts of Pickles. Many poultry died with the Cold, and others had their feet frost bitten. All the Cocks whose Combs were not cut, had them frost bitten. It must be observed here, that the Inhabitants, generally cut the Combs and Gills of the Cocks when young, as otherwise they sometimes die in consequence of having those parts frost bitten.

Sailed the Nautilus's tender, for New York, with dispatches.

The bread which is at present served out to the troops, is made of equal parts of Ground Rice and flour, and is very good. The Scarcity of flour in the Store, is the reason of such bread being delivered.

26th Decr 1778 — It began to blow hard, and to Snow with great violence about 12 last night; the Wind N. and a Severe frost. It continued all this day. Towards Evening the wind encreased greatly, the Snow drifted to such a degree, and the frost was so severe, that it was with the utmost difficulty and danger any person could paſs the Streets. The Snow was blown about, in the town, in all directions, and was so thick that the houses on the opposite side of the Street could not be discerned during most of the day. About 18 Inches of Snow had fallen, by Six this Evening.

It is much feared that the Tender which sailed yesterday will be lost.

27th — The Snow continued most part of last night. Strong Gale of wind at N. all this day, with a severe frost.

The Snow drifted yesterday and last night to a Surprizing degree: in Some places it was thrown up to the height of 20 feet; in others there was not the least appearance of it. It was so dry and Small, that wherever the wind found a paſsage, it carried the Snow with it — So that very few houses could keep it out.

Most of the Inhabitants were obliged to cut paſsages thro the Snow this Morning, in order to get out of their houses. Several men lost their lives yesterday, and many were frost bitten. No damage done among the Shipping.

The Inhabitants say they never remember so severe a storm as that of yesterday.

Three Soldiers of Bunau's Reg^t^ one of the Artillery, one of the 54th, and one of Brown's are lost, and above 30 of different Regiments frost bitten.

The Roads are so entirely filled up by the drifting of the Snow, that all Communication with the Country is at present cut off.

28th — Very hard frost. Wind N.

Parties of the troops were employed yesterday and this day in clearing away the Snow, and making paſsages to the different Magazines, and from thence to the Bakery, and to the Windmills, in order to get the Rice ground.

29th — Fine mild day. Slight frost. Wind S. W.

Parties from the Regiments quartered in the Country, came in this day for their bread; the roads being impaſsable for horses or Carraiges.

The Ice was fixed yesterday from Dutch Island, in the Naraganset paſsage, to the opposite shore, and the Rebels were observed very busy in breaking it, that it might go down. This shews as if they were apprehensive of our paying them a visit on that side.

If the frost should continue with the same severity for some days longer, it is probable great part of the bay will be frozen up. This has been frequently the case some years ago, & one year particularly, carraiges past over from this Island to Conanicut on the Ice. The paſsages at Bristol ferry & Howland's ferry have been frequently frozen over, so as to admit of carraiges of all kinds paſsing freely. From this town to Conanicut is near 3 miles. The paſsage at Bristol ferry is about 1400 yards wide, and that at Howlands ferry about 600. But there has been no frost severe enough since we came to this Island, to fix the Ice in either.

30th — Mild day. Thaw. Wind S. W.

A boat came in from Block Island last night, with 15 quarters of beef, and some other articles of provisions.

Major Barry, went up to Providence this day in a flag of truce.

We are in dayly expectation of the arrival of veſsels from New York, and the Sound, with provisions and wood, both of which are much wanted here.

31st Decr 1778 — Slight frost last night. Mild day. Wind S. W.

The Scarcity of flour is now so great with us, that the General ordered two days bread, and three days Rice to be iſsued to the troops for the next five days. There is no more flour in the Stores.

A boat came in from Block-Island yesterday Evening: she brought some beef; but having sprung a leak, they were obliged to throw most of their cargo overboard to prevent them from sinking.

A flag of truce went up to Warwick this day with about 70 Inhabitants who have chosen to quit the Island, and go to their friends on the Main. The Scarcity of provisions and firing has induced many Inhabitants to leave this Island, who would otherwise have remained.

VI

NEW YORK

VI

NEW YORK

1781

1st January. Very fine mild day. Frost, but very slight. Not the smallest appearance of Ice in the Rivers. Wind S. W.

There being at present no armed veſsel in the Hudson, from the town upwards, the Rebels will certainly be tempted to make an attack on some of our posts, by means of the boats they have in the upper part of it. They run not the least risqué in any attempt of this nature, for if they are able only to regain their boats they have nothing more to apprehend, as we have not a single boat or veſsel ready to pursue or intercept them. We are perfectly idle and inactive at present in this quarter, and by remaining so, give them leisure and opportunity to form and execute little enterprizes against us, which if they are succeſsful in, will certainly be disgraceful to us.

The removal of the Vulture out of The Hudson, was extremely improper, and without neceſsity. She certainly might have remained at her Station there until the Ice appeared, after which time there would be little or no occasion for her, as the River would then become impracticable for boats.

I have very little doubt, that the Rebel party which came down in the whale boats the night of the 25th Decr, were intended against Head quarters.

2d Jany. No frost last night, or this day. Some rain in the Morning. Thick & foggy, but very mild. W: W.

Several prizes taken by The Royal-oak, came in last night, and this day. Among them is a veſsel with 480 Hogsheads of tobacco.

The Expedition fleet under General Arnold, was spoke with the 24th Decr a few leagues from the Chesapeak.

3rd Jany Thick damp weather. No frost. W. N. E.

Certain intelligence was received this Morning, that the Pennsylvania troops Cantoned near Morristown in Jersey, (having demanded on the 1st Inst their discharges agreeable to the terms of their inlistment, and their pay, which has been due for nine months paſt, and being refused them, and their Officers having attempted to detain them by force) have Mutinied: that the Alarm guns were fired in order to aſsemble the Militia of the Country and suppreſs the revolt. — that the Mutineers having attempted to March towards Philadelphia, some skirmishing had ensued between them and the Militia, in which some Officers and men had been killed on both sides, and that all that Country is in the utmoſt confusion. Some other accounts say that the Mutineers intend marching towards Perth-Amboy, in order to Join us.

Sir Henry Clinton has such good reasons for crediting this intelligence, that he has ordered a large Corps of the Army to be in readiness to march on the shorteſt notice, and his intention is to move immediately into Jersey with it, to favor this revolt, and encrease the confusion.

The troops ordered are, The British Grenadiers, and Light Infantry, Three Battalions of Heſsian Grenadiers, The Jagers, 37th & 42d Regiments, and Prince Hereditaire; with about 20 pieces of Ordinance.

It is not yet determined whether he will enter Jersey by Paulus hook, or Elisabeth-town. The nature of the Country and the situation of the Enemy seem to point out the latter as moſt favorable, as the Country opens there, and we should be nearer to them, whereas there are rivers to be paſt from the former.

I am well convinced, (and I have hinted it to The Commander in Chief) that if now, or immediately on our entering Jersey, a Proclamation was to be iſsued, declaring that The Commander in Chief, would immediately order to be paid in hard Money to the firſt Thousand of the Rebel Troops, who came in and laid down their arms, as many days pay as they have due to them from Congreſs, and at the same rates the British troops are paid at, it would be attended with the beſt consequences. If they all had Nine months pay due to them, it would not amount to £7000.

4th Jany Thick weather, and heavy rain from 5 this Evening. W. E. N. E.

Undoubted intelligence received that the whole Pennsylvania line have Mutinied. They began on Monday the 1st Inst by seizing all the Artillery, Military ſtores, and provisions, and Marched that Evening from their huts at Morriſtown to an Advantageous piece of ground about 7 miles from thence, where they took poſt. In moving off, they paſsed General Waynes quarters, where they huzzaed for Officers & Soldiers without pay, clothing or provisions; then for Thirteen Kings without breeches. Wayne desired to know what they would have, and what they intended; they said they were determined to go to the Congreſs at Philadelphia, to demand their arrears of pay, clothing, and provisions, and their dismiſsion. On Tuesday they marched on to Middlebrook, and yeſterday to Brunswick. They amount to about 1200 men. Two Companies of Riflemen from Bottle hill, marched off to join them, without the Militia daring to moleſt them. All the boats on the Delaware have been secured so as to prevent the Mutineers from making use of them to paſs the River to Philadelphia. The Country is in great Confusion, and the persons in Authority under Congreſs, dread the effects of this revolt, as the people in general are tired of the oppreſsion and difficulties they suffer, and earneſtly wish for a return of peace and the old Government.

In consequence of this Information The Commander in Chief has ordered the British Grenadiers and Light Infantry, three Battalions of Heſsian Grenadiers, and the Jagers, to march at day break toMorrow towards Denyces ferry, from whence if there is occasion he intends to go with them to South Amboy, in Jersey, to favor the revolt, and keep the Militia back.

A person has been sent to them to aſsure the Mutineers, that in this ſtruggle for their juſt rights and liberties, they will be aſsiſted by a body of British troops, that if they will lay down their arms they shall be pardoned all paſt Offences, be paid all the pay due them by Congreſs, and not be required to serve unleſs they chuse it. They are desired to send Commiſsioners to Amboy to treat for them, to whom safe conduct shall be given, and to whom the sincerity of these proposals shall be explained. They are advised to move and take poſt behind South River, in which situation nothing can approach them, and where they can be immediately supported from hence. They are desired to consider the total inability of Congreſs to satisfy their juſt demands, even if they were inclined to grant them, and they are warned of the severity with which numbers of them will be punished, if they suffer themselves to be satisfied with the promises of Congreſs, and return to their service.

This letter is addreſsed, To the persons chosen by The Pennsylvania line, to head them in their ſtruggle for their rights.

'Tis said they have chosen a British Serjeant, (a Deserter) for their leader, and have given him the rank of Major General.

If our troops do not embark toMorrow, they are to be cantoned in the Neighbourhood of Denyces, at Gravesend, Utrecht, Flatbush, Flatlands, and the other villages thereabouts, 'till something more is known.

5th Jany Heavy rain 'till about 4 o'Clock this Morning. Thick fog 'till 10, when it cleared up very mild and pleasant. Fresh wind at W. for three hours from 12 o'Clock.

The troops mentioned yeſterday, marched this Morning at day break.

The Commander in Chief went over to Long Island at 12 this day, and intends going from thence to Staten Island, where he will be at hand to give orders for such further Movements of the troops as may be neceſsary in consequence of the intelligence he may receive.

Major General Phillips commands the British, and Major General Kospoth the German troops that have moved.

The present mild weather, proves very favorable to our troops, as the villages near Denyce's afford but indifferent cover for such numbers.

The Vulture, with The Admiral's flag on board, went down thro' the Narrows this Morning.

The accounts received this day from Jersey say, that the insurgents amount to about 2200 men. That on Wednesday Evening, the 3d, they were poſted between Brunswick, and Bonham town. A British Serjeant, whom they have appointed a Major General, commands them, and they are chusing more Officers every day. Wayne has in vain endeavored to pacify them, and induce them to return to their duty. When they left Morriſtown they took with them all the Stores and provisions in the Magazines, but as the provisions were not sufficient to supply their numbers, they now take from the Country people, whatever they have occasion for, and give them orders on Congreſs for payment. They have some pieces of Cannon with them, and Spiked such as they left behind.

6th Jany Very mild day. No froſt. Some rain in the afternoon, but soon over. Little wind at S.

The British Grenadiers and Light Infantry, paſsed over from Denyces about 9 o'Clock laſt night to Staten Island. The Commander in Chief came up from thence at 10 laſt night. He went down again about 12 this day, after having had a consultation with Generals Knyphausen and Robertson. The Heſsian Grenadiers paſsed over this Morning, and marched with the British towards Amboy.

By such intelligence as has been received from Jersey we learn, that the insurgents continue between Brunswick and South Amboy; they have not yet come to any determination, nor has any answer been received to the proposals made to them. No accounts from Washington's Army, nor any intimation of the ſteps he intends taking at this juncture. I think he will be extremely cautious of moving with any considerable body of troops from the Station he now occupies, leſt in the present confused ſtate of affairs, part of them might also revolt and join their Comrades. The Congreſs, and their Generals will probably use all fair means to bring them back to their duty, and will promise to comply with whatever they demand, for should matters remain a week longer in the present situation, & their demands unsatisfied, their numbers will encrease so much as to endanger the exiſtence of The Congreſs itself.

There are expectations of a revolt and defection in Connecticut in our favor. Ethan Allen, and the Vermonteers appear to be inclined to declare for us, and 'tis reported some of them have joined the Kings troops at Ticonderoga. In a letter from Allen to a Captain who commands a Fort at Bethlehem, he says, "There is a suspension of Arms agreed upon between me, and the Governor of Canada, and you will conduct yourself accordingly."

If these events are properly managed, and our arms prove succeſsful to the Southward, we may hope to see a speedy end put to the usurpation of Congreſs, and the Colonies return with cheerfulneſs to their allegiance.

The people in Connecticut were so certain that the Expedition under the Command of Arnold was intended to make a descent on some part of their coaſt, that the Militia received orders to be in readineſs to aſsemble on the shorteſt notice. It was generally imagined we had determined to seize on Compo hill, and eſtablish a poſt there.

Intelligence from Connecticut says the French Officers give out that they expect 10,000 French troops, and a fleet of 12 sail of the line to join them soon. 'Tis even said that the Governor and Council of that State, have aſsigned New London, Wyndham, Norwich, and other towns in that part of Connecticut for the quarters of the troops.

'Tis reported that The French Fleet at Newport are preparing for Sea, and that all the ships, except the Admirals, have their sails bent. 300 Cavalry of the Legion de Lauzun are quartered at Lebanon in Connecticut, but not at all liked by the people, who say they do not now appear to have come to America to aſsist them, but to endeavor to establish a footing in the Country.

The movement of the French Cavalry from Lebanon, will be a proof that their troops intend removing from Rhode Island. If we keep a strict watch on their motions, we shall have timely notice of the movement of the Main body.

A flag of truce transport arrived yesterday at Whitestone from New London, with 149 Officers and Soldiers lately exchanged.

7th Jan^y^ Rain part of last night, and 'till 12 this day. Wind N. N. E. 'till the rain ceased, and then N. N. W. Clear afternoon, with N. W. wind, but no frost.

A Correspondence has been for sometime past kept up with a * Major General in the Rebel service, who commands part of the Connecticut troops. He has lately intimated their desire of joining us on certain terms, and declaring against Congreſs. The Commander in Chief is extremely desirous of encouraging any appearance of this kind at the present time, and is taking every step that appears likely to contribute to the defection of the Rebel troops.

The insurgents still continue aſsembled in arms, and refuse to listen to any of the offers which have been made to them on the part of Congreſs or their Generals. They remain in the neighbourhood of Brunswick.

Our troops are cantoned at Richmond and on the roads behind it, on Staten Island. They are in readineſs to move on the shortest notice, in order to seize on any favorable opportunity which may offer in the present critical situation of affairs.

The mild weather is extremely favorable for the busineſs now on foot. The roads are so much broken up, and so soft by reason of the late mild and wet weather, that Mr Washington would find it very difficult to march from his present situation towards

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* Parsons.

Brunswick. A few carraiges paſsing would soon render the roads impracticable for his Artillery and baggage.

The insurgents do not suffer from being exposed to the weather. Their safety obliges them to keep together, and prevents them from dispersing into the houses in their Neighbourhood.

Our troops do not feel any inconvenience from moving at this season; and as there is not the least appearance of Ice in the bay or rivers, they are furnished with ease, with supplies of every kind. The mildness of the season also admits of making what movements we please by water without any of the inconveniencies usually attending them at this time of the year.

We have the most sanguine hopes that the loyalists in Maryland and the other Southern provinces, on hearing of the Mutiny of the Pennsylvania troops, will immediately rise and declare themselves. There is little doubt but they will do so if Lord Cornwallis has been succeſsful in Carolina; especially as the Corps under Arnold have by this time established themselves in Virginia. Should this be the case, I do not see how the Rebellion can poſsibly exist much longer. The people in general are so much oppreſsed, & long so earnestly for a return of peace, and the re-establishment of their former mild Government, that they only wait to see a beginning made, when they will join heartily in overturning the tyrannical and oppreſsive Government under which they now suffer.

Came in a brig from Bermuda in 14 days. She brings an account that Sir George Rodney had arrived at S^t^ Kitts with all his fleet, and that Ad^l^ Hood had arrived at Barbadoes from England with 8 sail of the line.

8th Jan^y^ Sharp frost last night, and all this day. Wind N. W. and very cold. Clear fine weather.

No particular accounts from Staten-Island. The troops remain cantoned there, in expectation of some accounts from the Mutineers, and of knowing if the Commander in Chief's offers have reached them.

A detachment of 170 Heſsians, went this day to take post at Flushing for the security of the Magazines and Depots in that part of Long Island. They embarked at the Albany pier in small craft, they went thro' Hellgate, and are to go from thence to Flushing by water.

9th Jany Hard froſt laſt night. Wind N. W. during the night. S. E. wind this Morning and appearance of Snow. Clear & fair 'till night.

The Commander in Chief came up from Staten at 1 this day. At 2 he received a letter from Major Delancey who had been left there, enclosing one which he had received at 12 from a confidential person in Jersey, informing that the three persons sent out with the Generals proposals to the Pennsylvanians had all got safe to them, and that they had been well received. One of the men came back to give this information. The others were promised to be sent back in safety. Mr Reed Governor of Pennsylvania, and General Wayne, had been with them, and made them offers on the part of Congreſs, which they had rejected from their knowledge of the impoſsibility of their being performed, and their want of faith in the promises of Congreſs. Their numbers amount to about 1700 men They are now at Princetown, observe the greateſt order, and keep strict guards to prevent being surprized. They suffer no person to approach them but under a flag of truce.

The Militia were called out with three days provisions; some of them to guard the ſtores remaining at Morriſtown, and others to guard the roads and other poſts in our Neighbourhood. Many of the Militia on finding the Pennsylvanians had no intention of joining us, returned home, saying they were perfectly right in going to Congreſs to demand from them what was their due.

The friends of Government here, are of opinion that a move of our Army into Jersey at this juncture would operate greatly in our favor; The Commander in Chief has not yet come to any determination respecting it, but the intelligence he may receive in the course of the next 24 hours, will probably enable him to decide on so material a point. In order to be prepared for all Events, he has this Evening given orders for all the Gallies, Boats, Batteaux, &c, &c, to be aſsembled at Staten Island, and ready to move to Elisabeth town point. The troops also, are to be victualled to the 12th Inclusive.

In case the Commander in Chief moves into Jersey, a feint is to be made up the Hudson, by sending a number of transports towards Kingsbridge, to be ready to receive troops; in order to keep Washington in Check, and prevent him from moving any considerable body of troops downwards. His force does not exceed 2000 men fit for duty.

Should the Pennsylvanians be inclined to accept the terms offered them by The Commander in Chief, he will probably take post at Amboy to cover them from any attempts of the Militia and secure their coming in.

Should Congreſs be able to prevail on them to return to their duty, by promising to satisfy their demands for pay and clothing, (which promises however, it is almost impoſsible for them to perform) it is not improbable but The Commander in Chief may make a sudden movement by night into Jersey, and while they are in that uncertain state, endeavor to make a stroke at them, or at least favor the desertion of such as may be inclined to join us.

Should the Pennsylvanians reject the offers of Congreſs and persist in proceeding towards Philadelphia, there does not appear a poſsibility of Washington's sending any considerable force against them, nor is it probable that the Militia will be induced to act offensively to prevent their going there, or to oblige them to submit; but I have no doubt that the moment we enter Jersey, the whole will unite in opposing our progreſs, which may probably put an end to thier differences, and do us more hurt than good. The moving into Jersey therefore, appears to be a nice point, and should be well considered of, before we put it in execution.

If Congreſs are able to satisfy the Pennsylvanians, there can be no doubt but all the rest of the Continental troops in the same situation, will make the same demands, and expect the like satisfaction, which must embarraſs them not a little.

Should the Insurgents join us, the matter must be at an end. The Rebels will find it impoſsible to raise another Army, all strength and confidence will be lost among them, and a general defection must be the consequence.

Came in, a Sloop from Halifax, in 9 days, with lumber. Saw no veſsel during her paſsage. The Rainbow, Orpheus, Rawleigh, Garland, Albany, Allegiance, and Savage, in that port.

10th Jan^y^ Heavy rain from 9 last night 'till 8 this morning. Strong wind at S. E. No frost. Soft mild day. Thick wet fog 'till 1 o'Clock, then clear 'till 4, when it came in thick again, and rained from 6 'till 9.

The Commander in Chief went down to Staten Island at 12 this day. His quarters there are at Banker's house near Decker's ferry.

No accounts received in town from Jersey. The Rebels have a detachment down at Acquakinack. Probably to prevent desertion.

Twelve Rebel prisoners were sent up from Staten Island this Evening.

11th Jan^y Clear Moonlight all last night. W. W. Very fine mild day. Fresh wind at W. S. W. from 11 'till 3. Little wind after that hour.

At 2 this afternoon five transports came round from the East River, and anchored in The Hudson. More transports are to come round this night or toMorrow.

The Clinton, Frigate, which is rigging and preparing for Sea in the East River, received orders to get ready for immediate service with the utmost expedition.

'Tis intended to make a feint up the North River, to prevent if poſsible any detachment being made by Washington, and to keep the Militia in the upper parts of Jersey from aſsembling below against the Pennsylvanians. Should Washington, notwithstanding, move some troops from the Highlands, and a opportunity offers, some real offensive operation will be undertaken against some of their posts above, which may also give the disaffected among them an opportunity of joining us.

The Heſsian Grenadiers paſsed over yesterday Evening from State Island to Long Island, and marched last night to their former quarters at Jamaica, &c.

Several people came in from the Country, but no particular information, except that some of them say the troops at West point made an attempt to rise the 1st January on the same account as the Pennsylvanians, but being overpowered by their Officers before they had gathered sufficient strength, several of them were confined. The Rebel troops seem all actuated by the same spirit; and the major part of the people in the Country are of opinion they will all join the Pennsylvanians in demanding an immediate payment of all their dues. They say the war is over, and that it is impoſsible to raise another Army.

A Soldier of the 3rd Battalion of New-Jersey Volunteers, who was taken prisoner the 8th of November last at Ninety Six, in South Carolina, came in this day, having travelled over that great extent of Country to get in. Two days march on this side of Richmond in Virginia he was told by a light Dragoon, that

General Leslie had landed with the Corps under his Command at Wilmington in North Carolina.

12th Jan^{y} Very fine mild day. No frost. W. W.

Came in a ship from Glasgow in 11 weeks.

The Pennsylvanians remain in their situation at Princetown. They have received the proposals made them by The Commander in Chief, but have come to no determination upon them. One Box is said to Command them, and to have an entire authority over them. A handsome sum of money given to him in the present critical situation might determine the matter in our favor. I fear we have not made us of the proper means to fix him in our interest.

Congreſs are using every poſsible means to prevent them from proceeding to extremities, & are lavish of their promises and paper dollars. They supply them regularly with provisions, as if nothing had happened. Their demands now are, their immediate discharges, or all arrears of pay in hard Money, with sufficient security that they shall be paid in such for the future. If one or other of these demands is not complyed with speedily, they say they will join the British, by whom they will be paid, clothed, and fed. Many of them are for joining us immediately, but the Majority are against it.

Washington is gone to Consult with Congreſs on the present critical situation of their affairs.

About 700 Militia are posted at Brunswick bridge under General Heard. There are several other smaller parties posted round the Pennsylvanians, but they do not offer to commit any hostilities against them. If they move towards us, the Militia will certainly attack them with good will. About 400 of the Pennsylvanians wanted to return to their respective homes, but their Chief would not suffer them, as he told them the remaining part of their fellow Soldiers would be so much weakened thereby, as to be unable to resist, and gain the points the whole were contending for.

They amount in all to about 1700 men, & have not encreased or diminished much since they first took post there. They observe the utmost regularity, and keep out their guards and Picquets with great exactneſs.

The Militia occupy at present all the posts in the Neighbourhood of Staten Island, as it is not thought safe to trust them to The Continental troops.

A Small Schooner belonging to the Commiſsary General, in going down to Staten Island yeſterday about 12 o'Clock with 70 barrels of Pork, overset Suddenly near Robins reef. Two men on board were drowned.

A boat belonging to one of The Commander in Chief's veſsels, going down about the same time with a load of Coals, sunk on the paſsage, and four Negroes were loſt.

21 Transports are now in the North River.

13th Jany Good weather. Slight froſt laſt night and this day. Fresh wind at N. W.

The Pearl, 32 Guns, Captain James Montagu, and some transports, came round from the Eaſt, into the North River this day. There are now 27 sail of transports there, fit for the reception of troops.

The Commander in Chief continues on Staten Island.

The Pennsylvanians continue at Princetown. Congreſs are using every art to bring them back to their duty, and I fear as we find it extremely difficult to communicate with them they will carry their point.

14th Jany About half an Inch of Snow fell very early this Morning. Rain and very thick weather all day, with a fresh wind at S. S. E. Clear, with a N. W. wind at 8 at night.

Nothing decisive yet from the Pennsylvanians. They remain at Princetown, and by all accounts continue ſteady in their demands upon Congreſs.

Every poſsible means are taking to procure proper people to go among the Pennsylvanians, to learn their views and intentions, their ſtrength, what offers have been made them by Congreſs, and how they have been received: if they are at all inclined to accept the proposals made to them on our part, and what ſteps they intend taking if their demands on Congreſs are not complied with; but the Militia keep so ſtrict a watch on the Coaſt, and guard the avenues to the quarters of the insurgents so narrowly, that it is with the utmoſt difficulty any person can get into the Country or approach them.

15th Jany Clear night. Slight froſt. Strong wind all day at W. S. W.

The Commander in Chief came up from Staten Island.

We can get no intelligence that can be depended upon from the Pennsylvanians. Many persons have been sent out, but none have returned of late. There are several persons in different parts of Jersey who give very good intelligence at other times, but they are so extremely cautious on this occasion, and dread detection so much, that they dare not be seen near Princetown, so that the accounts we have are little more than hearsay, and are so various and contradictory, that they are hardly to be depended on.

'Tis said that two persons who were sent out with the proposals, and the last declaration, have been apprehended and hanged. 'Tis also reported that those of the Pennsylvanians who were desirous of their discharges, amounting to about one third of the whole, had seperated from the rest, and gone without arms to Trenton; but other accounts say that the whole still continue together at Princetown. They demand that the Officers appointed by themselves shall be confirmed by Congreſs, and they declare they will never again serve under any of the former ones except Wayne. Numbers of the Militia are aſsembled near them, but they say they will not act against them unleſs they attempt to join the British.

Two deserters came in this day from a Detachment which the Rebels have at North Castle. They were detached from West point 11 days ago. These men say there had been no Mutiny there when they left it. They had heard the Pennsylvanians had Mutinied, but their Officers aſsured them it was all a Story fabricated by the Tories. Neither of these men had coats on, but were dreſsed as light as in the Middle of Summer. A few suits of cloathing have lately been delivered to the troops at West point, and the men are promised daily that they shall receive clothing and be paid in hard money soon, as plenty of every thing is expected from France by the first Ships. Numbers of the men declare they will desert and go home as soon as ever they receive clothing.

The British Light Infantry are cantoned at Billop's point, and the Grenadiers at, and near Richmond, Staten-Island.

The Rebel papers say that 45 sail of British ships were in the Chesapeak the 30th Decr last. These must have been the Expedition under Arnold. Their papers also mention an action having happened at Edenton, North Carolina.

16th Jany Frost. Strong cold wind all day at N. W. No Ice yet in any of the Rivers, Creeks, or Bays.

The latest intelligence from Jersey is that the Pennsylvanians removed to Bordentown the 12th. That a Committee from Congreſs, of which Gen[1] Sullivan is Chief, have been with them to endeavor to compromise matters, but as yet without the desired effect. 'Tis said some are for using violent methods against them, and surrounding them with the Militia. They certainly want them to draw nearer to Philadelphia, lest we should assist them; and to delay matters, in order to break them up, and have them more in their power. The men still insist with firmneſs on their original demands; but Congreſs hope, by seeming willing to comply with them, to tire them out with delays, and then, taking advantage of some favorable circumstance, to reduce them to obedience, and by a severe punishment of their leaders, to deter the rest of the Army from following their example.

Let the matter end as it will, it must prove extremely detrimental to the interests of Congreſs, and throw great difficulties in their way, in forming an Army against Spring.

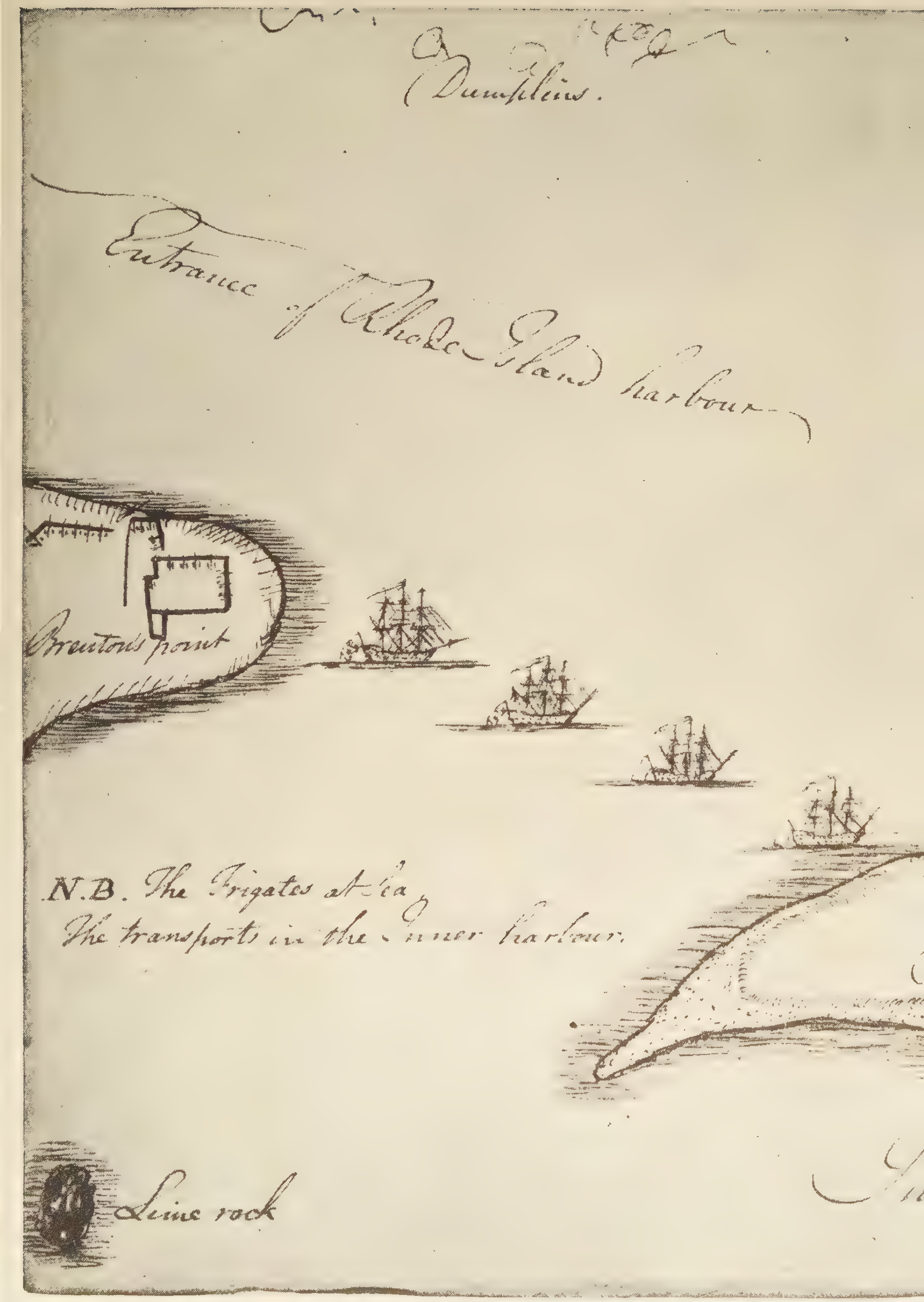
The Commander in Chief, has I believe, given up all hopes of the Pennsylvanians accepting the terms he proposed to them; and there is no doubt but that men who were sent to them with the proposals, were seized by them, and delivered up to Mr Reed, the Governor, who sent them over the Delaware, and had them hanged as Spies, and Emiſsaries.

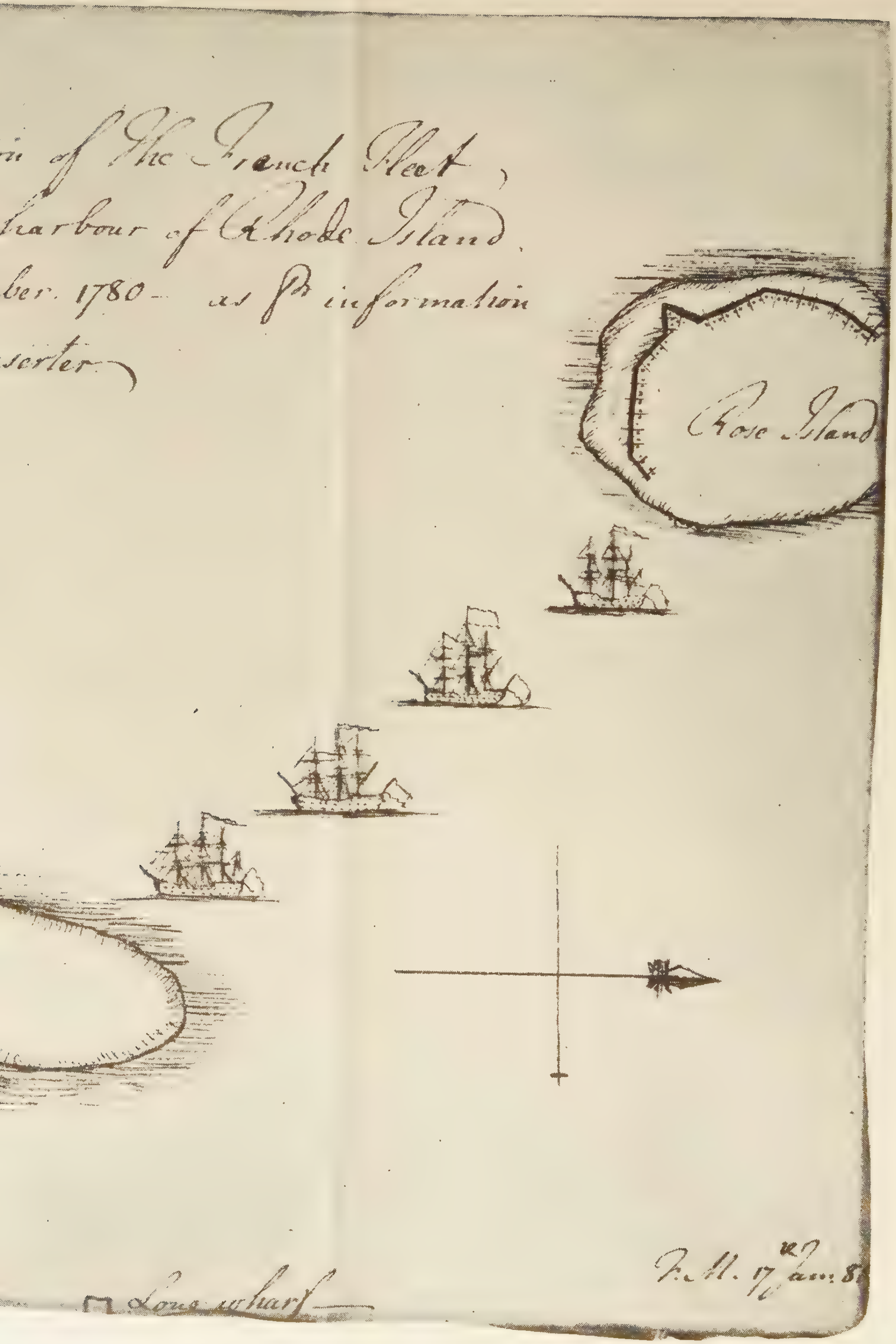
Should the Insurgents be disappointed in their expectations by Congreſs, 'tis highly probable they will yet create some commotion that may prove favorable to us. 'Tis now said one Williams, or Williamson, who was a British Serjeant, and deserted, is at their head.

The Jersey brigade are in the same discontented state as the Pennsylvanians, but it has not yet broke forth. Washington dare not move them, or any other part of the Continental troops against the Pennsylvanians. 'Tis reported he is still in the Highlands; and it is highly probable his presence is thought absolutely neceſsary at this time, with the troops in that quarter.

17th Jany Strong wind all last night and this day at W. Clear weather. Frost, but not severe.

The Pearl came round this day from the North River, into the East River. The transports still remain there. The Trimmer, one of the Expreſs veſsels, sailed this day with dispatches to General Arnold, who is supposed to be at Portsmouth, Virginia.


Dumplins.
Entrance of Rhode-Island harbour
Brentons point
N.B. The Frigates at Sea,
The transports in the Inner harbour.
Lime rock



n of The French Fleet,
harbour of Rhode Island.
ber. 1780 — as pr information
serter

Rose Island
Long wharf
P. M. 17 Jan. 8

Two Anspachers, and a Man of the Regiment of Heſse Hanau, who had been prisoners with the Rebels, and inliſted at Philadelphia into the French Regiment of Deuxponts, came in this day. They deserted a few days ago from Pompton, from a party of 25 Recruits for that Regiment on their march to Rhode Island. One of the Anspachers was at Rhode Island two Months ago. The French troops were then quartered in Newport, in the barracks formerly occupied by the British. Their ships of war lie part between Brenton's point and Goat Island, and part between the North point of Goat Island and Rose Island. Their transports in the inner harbour. A great number of Cannon mounted on Brenton's point, Goat Island, and Rose Island; so that their position is the ſtrongeſt poſsible, and hardly to be forced by Sea. There are about 1000 Rebel troops on the Island, who occupy the poſts at Tomini hill, and the Redoubts on the Outer line. No troops farther out on the Island, nor any poſts kept at Windmill hill, or Briſtol ferry.

The Flora has been raised, and she is now at Providence and nearly ready for Sea.

The French have an absolute authority over the Inhabitants on Rhode-Island, and M: Rochambeau is supreme in every thing. The French Soldiers treat the Rebel troops with the utmoſt contempt, and they are continually quarrelling with each other. This fellow aſsured me, that while he was there, some Rebel Soldiers coming into a Public house where several French Grenadiers were drinking, the Grenadiers without any provocation turned them out of it by force.

The French troops receive One l^b^ of flour, half a pound of fresh beef, and a Gill of Indian meal p^r^ day, — but no salt meat.

18th Jan^y^ Fine weather. Slight froſt. Wind N.

The transports which were anchored in the North River, removed this day from thence into the Eaſt River.

Some veſsels have been seen off Sandy-hook within these few days, but none have come in.

No further authentic accounts from the Pennsylvanians. 'Tis reported that part of them have received their discharges, and that the remainder have been paid their arrears of pay, in Continental money at the rate of 75 for 1.

'Tis certain that they delivered up two men who were sent out by us to them, and that they were hanged by order of M^r^ J: Reed, on the other side the Delaware.

This being observed as The Queen's birthday at 12 o'Clock 21 Guns were fired from the lower battery. At 1 oClock, The Clinton (which has the Admiral's flag on board) and The Pearl, fired 21 Guns each. There was an Aſsembly in the Evening.

19th Jany Very mild day. Slight froſt. Wind N. but not cold. The mildneſs of this winter hitherto, is very uncommon, especially when compared with the severity of the laſt. There is not yet the leaſt appearance of Ice in any of the Creeks or Rivers.

Congreſs have granted discharges to between 4, & 500 of the Pennsylvanians whose times of service were expired. They have been using every means in their power to induce the reſt of them to move to Burlington, in order, as they say, that they may be nearer Philadelphia, and have their accounts settled with more ease. But there is reason to believe their view is to get them into their power, and surrounding them with the Militia, oblige them to Submit to such terms as they chuse to impose. They have removed the Arms belonging to the discharged men, to the other side the Delaware.

'Tis reported that a Ship which sailed from hence lately bound to Jamaica with 150 men of Odell's Corps, is carried into Philadelphia.* It is more than probable they have run away with the ship, for they are a set of the greateſt Villians that were ever collected, and principally inliſted out of the Prison ships.

Some British Officers who were lately confined in Philadelphia Jail, and have made their escape from thence, came in this day

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* Major O'Dell came from Jamaica in , authorized by General Dalling, Governor of that Island, to raise a Battalion to serve on the Expedition to the Spanish Main. Having obtained Sir Henry Clinton's aſsent to endeavor to raise this Battalion, he offered great encouragement to such Officers in the Rebel Army as would bring in Men with them, but that not answering his expectations, and Arnold's coming in making it neceſsary to prevent him from inlisting any more, he was restricted to such men as he could engage from among the Rebel Naval Prisoners. About 30 men of different Corps, in the Provost, who were under Sentence of Death, or Corporal punishment for Desertion, and other Crimes, were pardoned on condition of going into this Corps.

General Dalling thought that The Commander in Chief would have allowed Major O'Dell to inlist as many of the Rebel Land prisoners as chose to enter with him, but as this would have prevented us from receiving so many of our own good and faithfull Soldiers in Exchange whenever an Exchange of Prisoners takes place, Sir H. Clinton would not admit of it.

EXTRACTS FROM INFORMATION GIVEN TO THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF, RESPECTING THE POSTS IN THE CHESAPEAK

If the progreſs with the number of troops you formerly mentioned is made thro' the Province, (Virginia) I apprehend you may safely make choice of the beſt situation for health and conveniency, without fear of being diſturbed by any force that will, or indeed can be brought againſt you. In that case Williamsburg will be your object; where you will find an Elegant palace with good gardens and enclosures, a large Capital, College, Church, hospital, good houses for the accomodation of all your men and Officers, with plenty of fresh provisions and Vegetables. It is centrical, and you will have frequent intelligence from every part of the province.

It is 4 miles to Burwell's ferry on Jame's River, to which place Frigates may go; and 12 miles from Yorktown or York River, where ships of any size may lie. With these advantages Williamsburg is only an internal town, open on all sides: its bounds are too extensive to make it a place of defence, and the people round it are generally speaking Rebellious.

Yorktown on the South branch of the River ſtands high, is healthy, and contains houses sufficient for the accomodation of such an Army. On the left it is partly encircled by a Ravine with deep margins of Moraſs, which might be turned to advantage if the place was to be fortified. There is a Battery of Cannon, 18 pd^{rs} in front: only 9 were mounted when I was there. Tho' this place has the advantage of all others in Chesapeak bay in depth of water, it is open to the E. & N. E. winds, therefore unsafe in the winter Season. The people in and about it, influenced by the family of Nelson, are all Rebellious. The Country round is not so plentiful as that you formerly occupied, which time and circumſtances did not permit you fully to reconnoitre.

Portsmouth, and its Environs is in my opinion the moſt eligable poſt, and can be secured and defended with a smaller force than any other of importance in the Colony of Virginia. The harbour is fit to receive veſsels of such draft of water as the Rainbow (44 Guns) perfectly safe, and is open all the winter.

Hampton road is a harbour for 64 Gun ships, and effectually cuts off all communication by Sea, from Nansemond, and

Jame's River. A Fort muſt be erected where the former one ſtood, and some guns placed in proper ſtations on the Norfolk side. The rear of Portsmouth is to be secured by two Redoubts between the town creek, and that between Gosport and the town; or by extending the bounds a little, and taking in Veal's plantation. I think it may be done by three Redoubts, with a Connection of Abbatis from the heads of Scot's creek, to that between the town and Gosport.

At the great bridge, diſtant 10 miles, a small poſt must be eſtablished, and no boat or Canoe, (except such as belong to the Army) suffered to swim in the South branch. This poſt effectually shuts up all the County of Princeſs Anne, and great part of Norfolk, so that nothing can go out by land, or come in: and all little forage in that bound is secured.

If any Provincial force is raised to attack that poſt, as long as we command on the water, they muſt advance by the Suffolk road, or thro' the County of Curratuck in North Carolina. If by the Suffolk, they have the great Swamp on their right, and Nansemond and Elisabeth Rivers on the left, so that they may be opposed with great probability of ſucceſs at the various bridges on that road, over runs of water rising from the great Dismal Swamp, viz^{t} at Redduck's mill, Cooper's mill, Nansemond Church, (which is equal to a Redoubt, being built of brick, and covers the bridge) and at Doctor Hall's mill: gradually falling back to the poſt at Portsmouth. If the Rebels fail of ſucceſs that way, before they get to the Great bridge they muſt march 128 miles, having the Rivers Perquemans, and Parqueſtauk to paſs, with Six others of smaller note, over which are bridges that may be easily deſtroyed.

20th Jan^{y} Fine weather. Cloudy. Wind N. N. E.

The British Grenadiers, with the Mounted Light Infantry and Jagers, paſsed over yeſterday from Staten Island to Denyces, and marched from thence towards their respective quarters on Long Island.

The Light infantry and Foot Jagers, are to paſs this day, and return also to their quarters.

'Tis reported by some people who came in laſt night, that the Pennsylvanians are not yet satisfied with what has been offered them by Congreſs, and that they were upon the march back to Princetown.

The Rebels say that General Arnold has landed near Richmond in Virginia, and was on the march to Petersburg, where there is a large Magazine of Stores and some provisions, for the use of the Army opposed to Lord Cornwallis.

21st — Heavy rain for some hours early this Morning. Clear at 9 o'Clock, and the rest of the day fine. Wind N. E. in the Morning; W. during the middle of the day, and N. W. in the Evening, with slight frost.

The General Monk of 18 Guns, Captain Rogers, (late the Washington Privateer) came round this day from the Dock yard into the North River.

The Admiral has received intelligence that three ships of the line have got out of Rhode Island. In consequence of this information he is going off in the Morning to the Fleet at Gardiner's bay. 'Tis highly probable those ships may be intended for the Chesapeak to attack the ships there with General Ar-

Admiral Arbuthnot's Fleet

	Guns	
London	90	Admiral Graves Capt T. Graves
Royal Oak	64	Admiral Arbuthnot Capt Edgar
Robuste	74	Captain Cosby
Europe	64	Captain Child
America	64	Captain S. Thompson
Prudent	64	Captain Burnett
Bedford	64	Captain Affleck
Culloden	64	Captain Balfour
Adamant	50	Captain Johnson
Guadaloupe	28	Captain Robinson
Galatea	20	Captain Reid

Ships of War with General Arnold's Expedition. 24th Jany

Charon	44	Capt Symons
Thames	32	... Howe
Charlestown	32	... Evans
Amphitrite	28	... Biggs
General Monk	18	... Rogers
Bonetta	18	... Dundas
Fowey	24	... Aplin
Hope	16	... Thomas
Savage	16	... Stirling
Swift	14	... R. Graves

nold; but if they have got into Portsmouth, there will be little danger of them, as that river will not admit line of Battle ships.

All the boats and Craft that had been attending the troops on Staten Island, came up last night from Princes bay to New York. With 4 Armed veſsels, belonging to the Q^r^ M^r^ General's department

22^d^ Jan^y^ Slight frost last night. Clear weather till 12 this day with the wind at S. W., soon after which it changed to E, and at 3 began to rain, which continued heavy till night.

There was a general preſs for Seamen last night. A good many useful hands were collected, and Shipped this day for the fleet in Gardiners bay.

The Admiral embarked at 3 o'Clock this afternoon in a small sloop for Whitestone, from whence he intends going in a Frigate to join the Fleet in Gardiner's bay.

No further accounts from Trenton than that the Pennsylvanians continue there, without having yet come to any final settlement with Congreſs. Some of the Men to whom discharges have been granted, continue with the others, saying they will not leave them until all grievances for which they first aſsociated have been redreſsed.

23^rd^ Jan^y^ Heavy rain and high wind 'till 2 o'Clock this Morning, after which it began to snow, and the wind encreased to so great a degree by 5 this Morning, that several Chimneys and trees were blown down, and a good deal of damage done. Slight frost early in the Morning, which fixed the Snow whereever it touched. The wind which was latteraly at N. N. E. & N. did not abate till after 3 in the afternoon. Some persons were killed by the fall of Chimneys among the ruins, where many poor people have built themselves huts. About 9 Inches of Snow fell.

The Grantham Packet, bound for England was the only vessel in the Hudson, and she rode out the gale without any accident.

Several veſsels in the East River, were driven ashore near Brooklyn.

Much damage we fear has been done by this Storm, as it was the severest that has been felt here for many years.

A number of British and German, Invalids, and discharged men, going to Europe, were to have embarked this Morning, but were prevented by the violence of the Storm.

Guards, Detachments, & Picquets — New York — 23rd Jany 1781

Guards — 24 hours

	C	S	S	D	R&F
Main	1	1	2	2	71
Commander in Chief's		1	1	1	53
Naval Store		1	1	1	37
Hay Magazine		1	1	1	31
Provision Store		1	1	1	25
Provoſt			1		26
Sugar house Prison			1		23
Weſt Wharf			1		22
Coffee house Wharf			1		19
New hospital			1		19
Eaſt Wharf			1		16
Sick prison			1		10
Ferry			1		10
Redoubt No 1					7
No 2					7
No 3					7
No 5					13
Total	1	5	14	6	396
Artillery men at some of the above			5		24

Detachments — 7 days

	C	S	S	D	R&F
Paulus hook	1	3	4	4	100
Prison Ship		1	1	1	31
Governor's Island			1		13
Total	1	4	6	5	144

Picquets at night

	C	S	S	D	R&F
To reinforce the Commander in Chief's guard			1		19
At the Hay wharf		1	1	1	53
At Buncker's hill Redoubt		1	1	1	31
On board The Nicholas & Jane		1	1	1	30
Total		3	4	3	133
General Total	2	12	29	14	697

24th Jany Moderate weather. Froſt Wind N. E.

The Pearl, came out of the Eaſt River, and went down to the watering place Staten Island. She is to go out with the Packet, and accompany her about 100 leagues off the Coaſt.

An expreſs arrived from Admiral Graves for Admiral Arbuthnot. He has detached three line of Battle ships after the French ships that have got out of Rhode Island. Said to be three of the line and three Frigates.

The Invalids embarked this day.

Eight Deserters, and Six prisoners were brought in this day from Kingsbridge. The latter were taken by the Refugees.

One of the deserters has given a very particular account of the intentions & fate of the Rebel party that came down in boats from Weſt point the [night] of the 25th December laſt. He says they came expreſsly with a design to carry off the Commander in Chief from his house. *See the mans own account transcribed in a seperate paper.

The Commander in Chief does not believe it, but thinks they intended to spike the Guns on Governor's Island.

Intelligence was received about 10 o'Clock this night that the Jersey brigade, quartered at Chatham had revolted, that they had deposed their Officers, and Chosen a Serjeant Grant to command them, and were moving towards Elisabeth town with an intention to come over to us. Orders were immediately given for the 17th & 57th Regiments, The Landgrave's Regiment, and the two Battalions of Anspach to be in readineſs to move on the shorteſt notice.

25th Jany Froſt. Wind N. W. Raw and cold. The Snow lies upon all places where it firſt fell.

General Robertson and Major Delancey went down this day to Staten Island, to endeavor to communicate with the Jersey troops, and induce them to join us.

The Grantham Packet sailed from the town at 1 o'Clock and went down to The Hook in company with the Pearl.

26th — Froſt. Wind N. Some small rain which froze as it fell, and made the ſtreets extremely slippy.

There are very favorable accounts in the Rebel papers of General Arnold's succeſs in Virginia.

Came in a Brig from Lisbon in 8 weeks. The accounts we have from Jersey are that Congreſs by dint of large promises, have in some measure satisfied the Jersey brigade, and induced them to return to their duty. About 400 of the Pennsylvanians ſtill continue in Arms at Trenton, and will not accept of anything leſs than their firſt demands.

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* Lieut. McKenzie either never transcribed this account into his diary, or else wrote it on a loose sheet that has since been lost.— H. U. P.

We have had an account this day from Block-Island, which mentions, that three French ships having got out of Rhode Island, Admiral Graves, as soon as he had certain information of it, detached the Culloden, Bedford, and America in pursuit of them from Gardner's bay the 22nd. The Gale having come on before these ships could clear Montock point, the Culloden was forced ashore at Oyſter pond point, where she was loſt, but her men, guns, and Stores saved. The Bedford was obliged to cut away all her Maſts. The America was seen safe after the gale.

27th Jany Froſt this Morning. Cold raw wind at N. E. Heavy rain from 3 afternoon till night. The wind very fresh in the afternoon.

Mr Buchannan, a Merchant of this city, who was taken some time since by the Spaniards on his paſsage to Jamaica, and carried into The Havanna, came in here yeſterday from Philadelphia. He paſsed thro' Trenton a few days ago, and saw there about 500 of the Pennsylvania insurgents. A Serjeant named Anderson spoke to him when he found he was coming to New York, desired him to mention his name to Sir Henry Clinton, and to tell him he was his friend. He wanted Mr Buchannan to go with him to the board of Serjeants then sitting, which he declined, leſt it might have been attended with disagreeable consequences to him, as a person on parole. Mr B. gave a Dollar to another Serjeant to drink the King's health. These men appear much diſsatisfied, and refuse to remove from Trenton. All the reſt of the Pennsylvanians are discharged and gone to their respective homes.

The Commander in Chief is of opinion these 500 men may yet be gained over, and is endeavoring to enter into a Correspondence with these Serjeants. He advises them to move as soon as they can to Monmouth, from whence they may easily get to Sandy hook, South Amboy, Mount Pleasant, or some of the intermediate places on that Coaſt, from whence our boats and veſsels can easily bring them off.

28th Jany Heavy rain and thaw moſt part of laſt night. Wind N. E. Clear at daylight, and a very fresh wind at W. N. W. which continued till night.

The fleet for England under Convoy of the Clinton Frigate, was to have sailed this day, from the Eaſt River, had the wind permitted.

The Vaughan Galley loſt her Prow, and foremaſt in Cow bay during the late Storm, and is come down to refit. The Ranger brig of 18 Guns, belonging to The Quarter Maſter General's department was drove ashore in Hampſted harbour at the same time, but will be got off, unleſs the Rebels come from Connecticut with a force sufficient to deſtroy her, which if the weather permits, is highly probable. But to prevent it, an Armed transport, with an Officer and 30 Soldiers on board is going from hence this afternoon to protect her.

The Maſter of The Brig from Lisbon says the gale was extremely severe at Sea, and that he was obliged to lie to, for 24 hours. The ſtrength of the gale was from N. N. W. to N. N. E.

A man who is employed to get intelligence in Jersey came in this day, and says, that the Jersey brigade being on their return the 26th to Pompton, in consequence of, and relying on the promises of Congreſs to satisfy their demands, were suddenly met by a brigade of troops under the Command of General Howe, who regardleſs of the promise of Congreſs of a full pardon for their late Mutiny, immediately seized about 60 of them, whom he yeſterday saw lodged in Morriſtown Jail. About 200 took to the woods and made their escape, the reſt Submitted. This affair has thrown all into confusion again, as 'tis probable those apprehended will be proceeded againſt with severity.

29th Jany Very fine weather. Slight froſt. Wind W. S. W.

The fleet went out of the Eaſt River after 12 o'Clock this day, and having a favorable tide and light wind, above 100 Sail got down to Staten Island, where they anchored.

I think it very probable that the French ships which sailed lately from Rhode Island, are intended to intercept this fleet. For the French Admiral could not be ignorant of the ſtrength of their convoy, and the time they were expected to sail. The French ships sailed the 19th, and tis likely will cruize for them a little to the Southward of Nantucket shoals.

30th Jany Very fine morning till 11 o'Clock, when it began to blow fresh at W, and there was a shower of Snow which laſted a quarter of an hour. At 12 it blew very hard, and at 2 the wind shifted round to the N. W. but was leſs violent. Clear, and a hard froſt in the Afternoon. The Fleet could not get under way. Several Merchant ships that had delayed going out yeſterday, went from the Eaſt River this Evening, and joined the fleet at Staten Island.

31st Hard frost last night. Very fine mild day. Wind N. W. There is not the least appearance of Ice in the Hudson, which is a proof that the weather is mild farther up the Country.

The fleet sail'd from Staten Island this morning and went to Sea. It consists of about 140 sail, and is under Convoy of The Clinton, 32 Guns, and the Brilliant 28; formerly a Frigate, but now an Ordnance transport.

1st Feby Slight frost. Very fine day. Wind S. S. W.

An Engineer is going off in the Morning with a number of entrenching tools to Gardners bay. It is intended to construct a work for the protection of the Culloden, which is thrown ashore near Oyster pond point. There are no hopes of saving the ship, but her Guns, and Stores will be brought away.

At 1 o'Clock arrived the Iris 32 Guns, Capt Dawson, in 7 days from the Chesapeak, with dispatches from Brigadier General Arnold, and Captain Symons. The troops under Arnold's Command have taken post at Portsmouth, and are establishing themselves there. Their succeſs in destroying the Rebels stores at Petersburg, Richmond and Westham, has been very complete.* Arnold's reasons for not destroying the great quantities of Tobacco, and Merchandize at Richmond and on board vessels in James's River, do not appear to me, to be good and sufficient.

Arnold preſses for a Reinforcement.

The Iris fell in yesterday, with a ship from Bristol, 8 weeks out. Captain Dawson took out of her some letters and Newspapers for the Commander in Chief.

Came in a veſsel from Liverpoole.

The Commander in Chief is extremely anxious for some accounts from Lord Cornwallis, and to know the situation of affairs to the Southward of the Chesapeak, as there has been no information from that quarter for some time past.

2d Feb: Thick fog, and slight rain all last night, and this day till 4 o'Clock. Wind E. S. E. The fog cleared off soon after and the wind shifted from the above point to S; & S. W, and at last fixed at W. with clear weather. Fresh wind at 8 at Night.

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* See the printed account which is extracted from the Commander in Chief's dispatches.

See also about this time in the New York papers, a letter from Washington to Admiral Arbuthnot about Naval Prisoners.

At 5 oClock came in a ship which appears to be one of the empty transports that sailed with the Clinton the 31st. She has probably met with some accident, which has obliged her to put back.

Arnolds Corps has taken above 700 hogsheads of tobacco, besides many other valuable articles. His succeſs with so small a body of troops, will cause the Expedition under General Leslie, which was more numerous in troops and had the same object, to appear in a very unfavorable light. I am almost sorry, (If I may venture to say so) for the sake of the reputation of the British Generals, that such a man as Arnold should have executed with an inferior force, what a British General did not even attempt with a superior one.

This is a strong proof how much the succeſs of an enterprize depends on chusing a proper person to command it. Arnold is bold, daring and prompt in the execution of what he undertakes. The Officer who commanded the last expedition, equally brave, but diffident and undecisive.

Came in a ship from Bristol in 11 weeks. nothing new by her.

3rd Feb: — Very fine mild day. No Frost. No wind 'till 12 oClock, when it came in from the S. W.

'Tis said the Pennsylvanians have quitted Trenton and dispersed.

Some of the men of the Jersey brigade who were apprehended by The New England troops lately near Pompton, have been tried at Morristown, and condemned.

Universal discontent at this time in the Rebel Country.

4th Feb: Change of weather about 4 this Morning, when the wind came round to the N. E, and blew very fresh, attended with hail, which continued till night, when the hail lay about 6 Inches deep on the ground.

'Tho General Arnold is extremely preſsing for an immediate reinforcement, as well to enable him to maintain the post of Portsmouth, as to make incursions upon the Rebels on the Coasts of the Chesapeak, yet I do not think The Commander in Chief will come to any determination to send troops there, until he hears from England, and knows what troops he may expect from thence, what the French intend doing, and what plan of operations is fixed on for the ensuing Campaign. If a Corps of 2,000 men, with a respectable Naval force could be sent to Chesapeak immediately there is no doubt they might now be employed to great advantage, not only in preventing reinforcements and supplies being sent to the Rebel Southern Army, but in shutting up the principal Rivers in that great bay and destroying the immense quantities of tobacco collected near them. Tobacco is now almost the only article of produce they can export to advantage; the destruction of it therefore, would diſtreſs them to a very great degree, and very sensibly affect their credit with the French and Dutch. The operations of such a body of men, under a lively, enterprizing Officer, and aſsisted by a Naval force, and craft to enable them to paſs the great Rivers, and move with celerity by water, would certainly be followed with the most material consequences. The Rebels could not oppose them with succeſs, and would be harraſsed in attending to their motions. Poſsibly the appearance of such a force in Chesapeak might induce the Loyalists in Maryland to rise and declare themselves, which at this juncture must give a fatal blow to the power of Congreſs.

5th Feb: Slight frost last night, which made the streets so slippery as to make it dangerous walking without creepers. Clear mild day. Wind S. S. W.

Sailed The Sukey privateer with dispaches for General Arnold, and Captain Symons.

A Rebel paper mentions that 10 Sail of the line and 12 Regiments have arrived in the West Indies from England.

6th Feb: — Hard frost last night. Cold day, but the frost not severe. Wind W. S. W.

The appearance of the Country on Long Island at present is very extraordinary; the surface of the hail on the ground having been thawed by the Sun yesterday, and frozen again last night, looks now like so much glaſs, and dazzles the sight.

The Commander in Chief is impatient for accounts from England. The last dispatches he received are dated the 4th of October 1780, and came by The Medea Frigate; so that he is totally uninformed of the intentions of Government.

Two men who are employed to carry dispatches between this and Canada, came in this day from Quebec with letters from General Haldimand dated 9th January. The letters are written in Cypher. These men left New York the 4th December last. The distance from hence to Quebec by the usual post road, is

559 miles, but they are obliged to go a much greater diſtance to avoid the Enemys poſts, and parties.

7th — Sharp froſt laſt night, and moſt of this day. Fresh wind at S. W.

A Cartel veſsel arrived from Boſton. Some Maſters of Ships who came in her say, the people there are much dejected at having received some account of Ethan Allen's having joined the King's Troops at Ticonderoga; also at the account of the Mutiny of the Pennsylvanians, and the succeſs of Arnold in Virginia.

They find the utmoſt difficulty in raising men to serve during the war; 25 Guineas are offered for a man without succeſs. The people are diſtreſsed to the laſt degree by fines, rates and taxes; so that they seem to wish heartily for an end to the Tyranny of Congreſs. There are frequent riots at Boſton.

Two French Frigates sailed from thence lately with a ship under their Convoy, having a number of heavy Cannon on board for the defence of Rhode Island, which is now commonly called by the Rebels, New-France.

8th Feb: — Fine mild day. No Froſt. Wind S. W. No Ice in the Rivers.

Some of the Pennsylvanians who were not entitled to their discharge are now at Philadelphia, but much diſsatisfied, as they have not yet received the pay and clothing promiſsed them.

The Jersey brigade have been treated with great severity, for having been induced by fair promises to go to Pompton, they were suddenly surrounded on their march by a brigade of New Englanders under a Mr Howe, who seized many and committed them to Morriſtown Jail. Several were tried, and two days ago, two of them were shot for Mutiny.

The generality of the Continental troops are now highly discontented, and ready to break out in the same manner. Their Officers seem to be of opinion, and some of them acknowledge it is all over, as they find Congreſs can neither pay nor cloathe them, and it is with the utmoſt difficulty they can procure them a Scanty supply of provisions.

9th Feb: Very cold day. Fresh wind at N. and hard froſt.

A Pettiangre coming up this Morning with a load of wood from Bergen point, overset between Paulus hook and the town, and three men in her were drowned.

9th Feb: 1781

The following numbers of men are in & near New York and fit for duty, belonging to Provincial Corps in other districts —

Corps	Men
Queens Rangers	43
New York Volunteers	7
King's American Regiment	18
Prince of Wales's Amer^{n} Regim^{t}	6
3rd Battalion Skinner's	13
Bucks County Dragoons	2
Garrison Battalion	91
Orange Rangers	34
British Legion	5
Loyal American Reg^{t}	12
Rogers's Rangers	11
American Legion	34
Forshners Corps	11
Total	287

Officers of the same Corps	
Lieu^{t} Colonels	3
Majors	1
Captains	17
Lieutenants	10
Ensigns	12
Cornets	2
Total	45

10th Feb: Heavy snow most part of last night, and this day, with a strong wind at N. E. and hard frost. The Snow drifted much and was about 10 Inches deep at night.

Accounts from Philadelphia mention, that some Officers of the Pennsylvania line, going down the Delaware in sloops to Philadelphia, with the arms belonging to the men who had been discharged, were alarmed at a report that the men were ready to Mutiny again at that place, and had thrown all the arms they had in charge into the River.

11th — Hard frost. Wind N. W. and very cold.

The Thermometer yesterday was as low as 12°, which is the lowest it has been this year. The greatest degree of cold observed here last winter was 16 degrees below 0.

Much Ice came down the Hudson laſt night and this day. The Iris Frigate which was anchored between Paulus hook and the town, received some damage in her bows and Copper sheathing and was obliged to remove into the Eaſt River. The Spring tides which happen at this time, have raised the Ice from off the Marshes and low grounds along the banks of the River, and the tide of Ebb brings it down.

A person who came in yeſterday from Elisabeth town, says, he saw a letter there from a person in Virginia to one in Philadelphia, which mentioned that Lord Cornwallis having been joined by the Corps under the Command of General Leslie, had attacked the Rebel Army under General Green in Carolina, and that he had defeated it, and taken 1600 prisoners.

There have been some accounts lately that Green's army were in the utmoſt want of every neceſsary, and had but little hopes of being able to oppose the progreſs of our troops in Carolina.

The Commander in Chief received an Expreſs this Evening from Admiral Arbuthnot, informing him, that the America was arrived safe in Gardner's bay, that the Bedford had got up other Maſts and was fit for Action, and that every thing belonging to the Culloden, even greateſt part of her Copper sheathing, had been saved. The hull of the ship cannot be got off.

12th Feb: Cold weather, and hard froſt. Wind S. A good deal of Ice in the rivers, but it does not encrease.

Came in a brig from Cork, which brought papers to the 28 November.

The Fortune frigate, which sailed from hence the 16th October, had arrived the 12th November; and the Packet which sailed after her got home in 23 days.

13th — Mild weather. No froſt. Wind S.

Came in The Charleſtown, 32 Guns, Capt Evans from the Chesapeak, having under her Convoy 11 sail of veſsels taken in James's River. They have on board about 700 hogsheads of Tobacco taken there. [1]

A Man from Connecticut says the Rebels find the utmoſt difficulty in that State in raising their quota of men to serve in the Continental Army for the war.

The Aſsembly of Connecticut have paſsed an act for fitting out 100 Whaleboats, from the different towns on that Coaſt, to

[1] 700 hogsheads of tobacco — 10Cwt each, at 1s Sterlg pr lb £39,200 —
Came in also a Schooner from Charlestown in 9 days.

protect them from the Invasions of the Refugees, and from other small attacks from Long Island.

14th Feb: Mild day. No frost. Very little wind at S. The Snow is going off fast.

A person who came paſsenger in the Schooner from Charlestown says, that there was an action on the 17th January between Tarleton and Morgan, which ended in a defeat of our Troops. That the greatest part of Tarleton's detachment were taken prisoners, and above 100 killed. His Corps consisted of the 7th Regiment, 1st Battalion of the 71st and the Legion. This misfortune was owing principally to the ill-behavior of the Cavalry of the Legion, which refused to charge. Most of the Officers who were taken in that affair, had arrived at Charlestown on parole, and Lord Cornwallis was gone in pursuit of Morgan, who retired immediately after the Action with the prisoners he had taken. The troops under General Leslie arrived at Charlestown from Chesapeak the 13th December, where they immediately disembarked, and a few days after marched to form a Junction with those under Lord Cornwallis at Cambden. They had joined, and the whole Army had moved towards North Carolina. Charlestown is garriſsoned by three Battalions of Heſsians and the Companies of the 84th Regt. The Companies of the 82d Regiment are gone under the Command of Major Craig, to take post at Wilmington on Cape Fear River, in order to communicate from thence with Lord Cornwallis.

The Chatham, 50 Guns, Captain Ord, and the Carysfort, 32 Guns Captain , are arrived at Charlestown with a Convoy, in 9 weeks from Ireland.

The November Packet is also arrived there.

15th Feb: Clear day, and no frost. Fresh wind at W.

Came in The Thynne Packet with the December Mail in 9 weeks. Arrived the Pearl from a Cruize.

Mr Tier and Inhabitant of Rhode Island who came in a few days ago from thence, says, that the three French ships that sailed from Newport lately were sent to Convoy in two Frigates and a valuable store ship which were expected round from Boston, but perceiving that bad weather was coming on, they returned into port, on which occasion the Ardent 64 Guns was near being lost on Point Judith.

16th Feb: Mild weather. Wind E. A good deal of Ice came down the Hudson this Morning.

The Halifax, 16 Guns, Captain Bowers, arrived at Sandy hook last night, from Charlestown with dispatches, and the November Mail.

The Halifax was chased on the 11th by a 64 Gun ship, but escaped her by means of thick weather.

The defeat of the Corps under the command of Colonel Tarleton is confirmed, and I am afraid is more consequential than we at first imagined. The greatest part of the Corps he had with him is lost. Lord Cornwallis was in pursuit of Morgan with some chosen troops unincumbered with baggage, and it was hoped would be able to come up with him. This unfortunate check has embarraſsed Lord Cornwallis exceedingly, and will render his proposed march into North Carolina much more difficult.

They have had accounts at Charlestown from the West Indies, which mention that Sir George Rodney and General Vaughan had been repulsed in an attempt they had made on St Vincents. 'Tis said Sir George Rodney had received notice from England that D'Estaing might be expected in the West Indies with 28 sail of the line. Sir George had desired a reinforcement of Ships from Jamaica, but 'twas feared they would not be able to send him any from thence, as most of that Squadron had been dismasted in the late dreadful hurricane. 30 Masts were wanted and there were but 4 on the Island.

There is great reason to believe that the French had formed a design last fall of making an Expedition against Canada this winter with part of the troops from Rhode Island, and as the greatest number of the Canadians are ill affected to the British Government, it would probably have been attended with distreſsing circumstances to us; if such an enterprize was ever formed the unusual mildneſs of the season has prevented its being carried into execution.

17th Feb: Rain from 7 last night 'till early this Morning. Clear day, with a fresh wind at N. W; & hard frost towards night.

Mr William Brenton a Native and Inhabitant of Rhode Island, came in at 12 o'Clock last night expreſs from Gardner's bay. He came off from Rhode Island in a Canoe 8 days ago with very material intelligence from a confidential person there

(D^r Halliburton) to the Admiral and General. 'Tis said the account he brings is, that The French have detached a ship of the line and some frigates, with about 1500 troops to the Chesapeak to attack Arnold, and intend going with a greater force immediately.

In consequence of the intelligence he brought, transports are ordered for the immediate reception of 3000 Troops, and the following Corps, viz^t The Light Infantry, The British and Hessian Grenadiers, the 42^d, and the 76^th Regiments, received orders this afternoon to be in readineſs to embark on the shorteſt notice.

I think it very probable that the design of the French Admiral in sending out three line of Battle ships the 18^th or 19^th January laſt, was to learn what ſteps Admiral Arbuthnot would take in consequence of their movement, that on the present enterprize he might act accordingly.

I had a good deal of conversation this day with M^r Brenton, with whom I was well acquainted when at Rhode-Island. He says there are no other Troops but the French on Rhode Island, and they are all quartered in Newport. No guards at the North end of the Island, nor any farther from town than the outer line of Redoubts. Very little hard money to be seen. The bills the French give on France are at 30p^r Cent discount. The French will not touch the Congreſs paper, which is depreciating every day. General Washington was there when he left it, concerting measures with the French Chiefs. Major General Knox (late a bookbinder at Boſton) was sent there lately to demand from the Aſsembly of that State, a supply of hard money for the payment of the Army. He declared to some persons there that he had been obliged to borrow a Johannes, to defray the expences of his Journey. The taxes are enormous, yet so great is the aversion of the people to the Military service, that from 230 to 250 hard dollars are offered to a man to inliſt for the war; but with very little succeſs. The laſt Declaration of the King's Commiſsioners is much sought after in the Country, and it is not uncommon for people to go 50 mile to read it, or hear it read. Three townships in Connecticut and Rhode Island, huzzaed on hearing the Declaration read at their public town meetings; and have resolved not to send their quota of men for the Continental Army. The Aſsembly of Connecticut is now sitting to determine what is to be done with those belonging to their State who have behaved in this manner.

I was aſsured this day, that a person resident in Jersey, whose Eſtate is about £130 — Sterling a year, now pays at the rate of 13,000 paper Dollars pr Annum in Taxes and rates of different kinds.

Some persons juſt come in from the Neighbourhood of Weſt point say, that the New York troops ſtationed in that Garrison had formed a design to Mutiny and carry off their Generals to the British poſts on the frontiers of Canada, but that it was discovered, and entirely fruſtrated.

18th Feb: Fine weather. Sharp froſt. Wind N. W. in the Morning, but S. after 4 oClock in the afternoon.

Came in laſt night a Cutter with letters from Arnold mentioning that a line of Battle Ship and two Frigates, French, had anchored within the Capes. The same veſsel was dispatched at 3 oClock this day with a letter to Arnold, saying, "they muſt be the Fier Rodrique and two frigates from France with ſtores, or the Avante Guard of the French fleet from Rhode Island." Every aſsurance is given him of reinforcement, and of the utmoſt attention to his safety. I believe he is a little alarmed, and not without reason, for should he be taken, he will certainly be hanged.

There can be no doubt but the ships in the Chesapeak are from Rhode-Island. Those expected from France would not put in there, uncertain of what protection they might meet with.

The Light Infantry, 76th, & Prince Hereditaire only, are to Embark. The reſt are ordered as a deception. Those to embark amount to about 2000 men. The 57th received orders this day, to be in readineſs to move on the shorteſt notice.

Major Robertson, and Cornet Stapleton set off laſt night by land for Gardner's bay, with letters to the Admiral in case he should ſtill be there.

Three Officers and 9 men were taken this day by the Refugees, near North Caſtle.

19th Feb: Good weather. Wind N.

Another veſsel came in laſt night from Arnold with information that a French 64 Gun ship, and two Frigates were at anchor off the horse-shoe, and that one of the frigates was aground there, with her yards and topmaſts lowered.

It is supposed that the 64 is the ship that chaced the Halifax the 11th Inſt on her paſsage from Charleſtown.

There has been certain information received that the French are preparing to leave Rhode-Island with their whole Squadron. Their deſtination uncertain, but 'tis supposed they intend attempting Arnold's Corps at Portsmouth.

The Halifax, Captain Bowers, went thro' Hellgate to day, with dispatches for the Admiral who is supposed to be in Gardner's bay.

The Admiral may be daily expected at the hook with the Fleet from Gardner's bay.

Came in two small veſsels from Halifax. The Rainbow, 44 Guns, Captain Kendal, was to sail from thence, as toMorrow, for this port with a Convoy.

20th Feb: Hard froſt, and cold weather. Wind N. W.

The Iris sailed this Morning.

Came in a Brig from the Weſt Indies, taken up the Chesapeak by The Hibernia Privateer of this port. As she came down she saw two French ships at anchor off the horse shoe. They fired at her, but she run paſt with only one man killed, and one shot lodged in her. Off the Capes she met two English Frigates going in, to whom she communicated this information.

21st — Very fine day. Wind S. Cold towards evening but no froſt.

Came in the Orpheus 32 Guns Captain Colpoys, and the Richmond 32 Guns, Capt Hudson, from the Capes of Chesapeak. These ships have been on a Cruize from Halifax since laſt December.

22d Some snow and rain laſt night, but none of the snow on the ground this Morning. Fine mild day. Wind S. W. A Signal for some Merchant ships.

Major Robertson and Captain Stapleton returned this night from Gardner's bay.

23rd Feb: Rain part of laſt night, and moſt of this day. Thick, foggy weather. Wind N. E.

Came in a ship from Hull in 9 weeks, one from Lisbon, and one from St Kitts in 24 days.

The Light Infantry have received orders to embark on Monday the 26th Inſtant.

24th — Fine clear day. Fresh wind at W. No froſt.

25th — Pleasant weather 'till 12 o'Clock, with the wind at S. W. soon after 12 the wind shifted round to the N. W, and blew fresh and cold.

Came in a ship from Jamaica.

'Tis said The Thunderer 74 Guns, miſsing after the late great hurricane, had been spoke with off the Land's end of England; and that the Stirling-Caſtle is loſt.

26th — Very fine day. Slight froſt. Wind W.

Came in the Savage sloop of war, with several prizes.

No further steps have been taken for the movement of a body of troops from hence, than ordering the troops to be in readineſs to embark, and the transports to prepare to receive them. Every thing seems to wait for the arrival of The Admiral, who is daily expected with the Fleet from Gardner's bay. All the transports here fit to receive troops are ready, and can take about 2000 men. About 2000 more troops are under Embarkation orders. Every thing on the part of the Army is ready, but there are not a sufficient number of ships of war in the port to Convoy the transports to the Chesapeak.

If part of the French fleet has got out of Rhode Island, and is blocking up our ships & troops at Portsmouth, we have been extremely remiſs in not endeavoring to relieve them. I fear the Admiral has very bad intelligence, or pays very little attention to what he has received. He should have known of the Enemy's movement sooner, and knowing it, I think it would have been right for him to have gone with his whole fleet to the Chesapeak, immediately, and have endeavored by every means in his power to deſtroy such of the Enemies ships as he found there. There would have been no danger of any attempt upon this place during his absence. The French are not ſtrong enough to undertake any enterprize of consequence by themselves, and The Rebels have no troops aſsembled, or in condition to co-operate with them.

27th Feb: Fine weather. Slight froſt laſt night. Wind W.

Some people here are of opinion that the design of the French Admiral in sending out three ships from Newport the 18th or 19th of January, and ordering them to return the next day, was to induce Admiral Arbuthnot to detach part of his Squadron in queſt of them, and then to have come out of Newport with his whole Fleet, and blocked up the remainder of the British in Gardner's bay.

28th — Remarkable fine day. Clear & Mild. Wind S. W.

No accounts from The Admiral; nor any further intelligence from Arnold, which makes it probable that he is entirely blocked up there. The inactivity of our fleet on this occasion, and the Admiral's perſiſting in remaining in Gardner's bay, will certainly be found great fault with on some future day.

If some ſteps are not immediately taken to relieve Arnold, the consequences may be fatal.

1st March. Thick weather. Hail and Sleet this Morning for several hours. Rain the latter part of the day. Wind N. E.

Some accounts this day by land from the Chesapeak. Another expreſs sent this Night to the Admiral in Gardner's bay.

'Tis said the Romulus, 44 Guns, Captain Gayton, has been taken going into The Chesapeak, by the French ships there.

The Rebels are moving troops from their poſts in the Highlands, to the Southward. No doubt to act in conjunction with the French againſt Arnold, whose capture is become a favourite object, and generally expected by them.

The French Naval force in Chesapeak conſiſts of a 64, and two frigates. 'Tis reported they have 1500 troops with them, but as they have no transports, 'tis highly improbable they can have that number of troops on board the three ships.

2d March Rain moſt part of the day. Thick weather but Mild. Wind N. E.

The Rebels have certainly a considerable body of troops in motion towards the Southward. 'Tis said they amount to 3000 men, under The Marquis de la Fayette, and Mr Howe. They give out that part of the French troops from Rhode-Island are to garrison the Highland Forts, in place of those who have marched to the Southward.

The Light Infantry, 76th Regt, and Prince Hereditaire, are ordered to embark toMorrow Morning. Those Corps amount to about 2000 men, and are to be commanded by Major General Phillips.

If the Admiral does not come round with his whole fleet immediately, and take these troops under his Convoy to Portsmouth to relieve Arnold, we shall inevitably loose all that Corps.

3rd — Thick fog and some rain the firſt part of laſt night. Clear Morning and fine day. Very fresh Wind at W.

The movement and Embarkation of the troops was countermanded laſt night on account of the great appearance of bad weather, and deferred until toMorrow Morning.

A Rebel Lieutenant Colonel named Klein, (a German, and a Grand tour man) came in this day from Philadelphia. He says he has quitted their service, as they can no longer pay their troops, and he cannot serve without. He informs that accounts had been received there of the defeat of Morgan and Green by Lord Cornwallis, and that his Lordship was advancing into Virginia. He met the Rebel troops on their march towards Philadelphia, and is of opinion they are going to oppose Lord Cornwallis. The Rebels say that the Romulus, with several veſsels under her Convoy, from Charleſtown to Cheșapeak, is taken by the French.

Came in a Snow from Madeira in 13 weeks, a Brig from Glasgow, the same paſsage, and a Brig from Providence in 19 days.

By the account of the Captain of the Madeira veſsel, he met some ships of the Cork fleet in great diſtreſs, having parted from their Convoy, the Aſsurance of 50 Guns, in a heavy gale of wind about 7 weeks ago. 'Tis supposed this fleet is arrived at Charleſtown.

The Providence veſsel says there are certain accounts of the arrival of Sir Samuel Hood at Barbadoes, with a fleet, and a body of troops from England.

The Rebels aſsert that 6 ships of the line and 90 transports were taken lately by D'Eſtaing.

4th March — Very fine day. Slight froſt. Clear & fair. Wind N. W.

The troops embarked this day: The Light Infantry at 9 in the Morning at Brooklyn, the 76th at 1 oClock at the Ship yards, and Prince Hereditaire at 8 in the morning from the wharfs in the Eaſt River.

The 57th from their Cantonments on the Eaſt River, and the Combined Battalion of Losberg & Knyphausen (lately exchanged) from their Cantonments in the Bowery, marched at day break this Morning to Kingsbridge, and replaced the 76th.

The Battalion of Linsing, Heſsian Grenadiers, marched at day break from Jamaica, croſsed from Brooklyn to New York at 11, and then marched to replace the 57th in the Cantonments on the Eaſt River.

There are several accounts through the Rebels, that Lord Cornwallis has obliged Green to retire out of Carolina; and some even say that he has entered Virginia. They also report that some troops from Europe have joined Lord Cornwallis.

Major Craig has taken post at Wilmington, North Carolina, with part of the 82d Regiment, and some Detachments from Charlestown.

5th March. Rain most part of the day, after 10 in the Morning. Wind S.

The transports with the troops on board went out of the East River this Morning, and by 10 o'Clock were all anchored below Governor's Island.

At 10 came up The Bonetta, 18 Guns, Captain Dundas with expreſses from General Arnold, and Captain Symons, dated Portsmouth 27th Feb: The French ships that had appeared off that place, sailed from thence the   without having made any attempt to attack the post. A body of Rebel troops drew near to Portsmouth when the French first appeared, and made a show as if they intended an attack, but they only attacked a small Picquet, and then went off. Since the departure of the French ships, they have retired from that Neighbourhood.

Accounts were received this day from the Admiral that the French ships have returned to Rhode Island, with several ships under their Convoy, also with The Romulus, 44 Guns, Captain Gayton, which they took after their departure from the Chesapeak.

The French ships are said to have been the Ardent 64, Guns, and the Surviellante & Gentille, 32 each.

It now appears that the design in thier detaching these ships, was to take under their Convoy from Chesapeak, several veſsels laden with flour from Maryland, that were ready to go with them to Rhode Island. This they have effected, having returned to Newport with 10 or 11 veſsels laden with flour, which was much wanted by their troops there.

It will certainly appear very unaccountable that the French should have been permitted, with an inferior force to detach this small Squadron from Rhode Island to Chesapeak, and to return from thence with a Convoy so eſsential to them, and also to carry in with them one of our two decked Ships, while the British fleet lay in Gardner's bay for the expreſs purpose of blocking up the port of Rhode Island. Such inactivity and remiſsneſs is unpardonable, and deserves the severest censure. Nothing great can be expected from such a Commander.

Had the British Fleet come out of Gardner's bay, when the Admiral received the first information of the detachment made by the French, and either have gone directly to the Capes of Virginia, or cruized off Rhode Island, they could not poſsibly have effected their purpose.

The Admiral is now certain that the French are returned to Newport, and yet it is highly probable we shall soon see him here with his fleet. Indeed I am of opinion he should even now quit that vile station, Gardner's bay, in which his fleet can no longer be of any material service; for should a Second division of French appear on the Coast before he leaves it, they will certainly block him up there, which will be followed by the destruction of his fleet without fighting.

The accounts from Lord Cornwallis by way of Virginia are very favorable. There is certain information that he has croſsed the Roanoke, and has entered Virginia in pursuit of Green & Morgan, who have retreated before him.

Green is retiring in order to facilitate a Junction with the troops he expects from Washington, which to the amount of 1500 under Fayette, were certainly at Trenton the 28th of February. However, as the French ships have left Chesapeak, and our Frigates may now Command the head of the bay, they will be obliged to make a great detour, which will probably prevent them from joining Green until his fate is determined. The last accounts from Arnold mention his intention of making a movement with 600 troops up James's River, in order to favor the operations of Lord Cornwallis, and prevent the Militia of that Country from Aſsembling to oppose his progreſs.

Now is certainly the time to throw the force at present embarked, into the Chesapeak. By their appearance in the upper part of James's River the best Consequences must ensue to Lord Cornwallis's operations, from the succeſs of which we have every thing to hope and expect.

6th March. Very mild day. Wind W.

The Orpheus, attempted to get out of the East River this day, but could not. The Expedition fleet remains at anchor below Governor's Island.

No accounts yet from Admiral Arbuthnot. 'Tis reported that The French fleet has gone out from Newport.

7th March. Thick raw weather. Wind N. E. Sleet and Snow from 9 this Morning 'till night. Fresh wind in the Afternoon.

Came in the Bonetta, Captain Dundas from Chesapeak.

Lord Cornwallis is certainly advancing rapidly towards Virginia after General Green; and affairs in that quarter look favorably.

1000 Stands of Arms were ordered to be shipped this day.

I think it highly probable that the force now embarked, will land in Maryland, and that the Aſsociated Loyaliſts in that Province, who have long waited with impatience for an opportunity like the present, will then be desired to declare themselves. This ſtep if effectually supported by a Military force, will throw the affairs of the Rebels into the utmoſt confusion. Every poſsible means should now be employed to raise the Loyaliſts, especially in Maryland where they are zealous & numerous, for if any considerable body of the Inhabitants once declare themselves, and they find support from the presence of a Corps of regular troops, under an Experienced and enterprizing Officer, the defection will soon spread. There appears no obſtacle to this, but the want of co-operation on the part of the Admiral. If he persiſts in ſtaying in Gardner's bay, it would be imprudent to truſt the Expedition fleet from hence, leſt the French should give him the slip, and deſtroy it.

Some heavy Guns were heard off the Hook this Morning, from whence 'tis conjectured the Fleet is come round from Gardner's bay.

8th March. Fair weather. Wind N.

The Fleet went down to the watering place at Staten Island this day.

One Strictland, the fellow who acted as Executioner to the late unfortunate Major André, was taken yeſterday near the Refugee poſt on Bergen point, and was this day brought to town and lodged in the Provoſt. It has been aſserted by several who were present, that he performed the horrid deed voluntarily, and not by compulsion, as was supposed. It appears to be the general wish of the Army, that the Commander in Chief would order this wretch to be executed immediately; especially as he was found lurking near the Refugee poſt, and might be considered as a Spie; but as there is no proof againſt him, his Execution would be juſtly considered by the world as a mean way of revenging the Murder of that accomplished Officer. I hope therefore, for the honor of the Commander in Chief, he will not liſten to any suggeſtions of that nature.

9th March. Pleasant day. Wind S. W. There is ſtill about 2 Inches of Snow upon the ground.

No certain account yet of the motions of either fleet. Ours is supposed to be in Gardner's bay, and that of the French at Newport.

An expreſs veſsel went off this night for Portsmouth, Virginia.

10th Rain and Snow moſt part of this day. Wind S.

The Rainbow, 44 Guns, Captain Kendall came in laſt night from Halifax.

11th Very fine day. Wind W. S. W.

A small veſsel came in laſt night from Shrewsbury in Jersey, which left that place the 9th. The people in her say, that the day before they sailed, some persons arrived there from the Southward, who reported that Lord Cornwallis having made a ſtrong detachment of Cavalry with Infantry mounted behind them, in pursuit of Green, and a detachment sent from Portsmouth by Arnold, having come up with Green at a River in Virginia which was so much swelled by a great rain that he could not croſs it, the whole Rebel Corps with their General, was taken: and that their Southern Army is now totally dispersed. It is very probable that Lord Cornwallis has had a blow at Green's Army in their paſsage of some River; but this account cannot be credited to the extent abovementioned.

Came in 4 veſsels from Charleſtown. They sailed with 11 others under Convoy of the Chatham 50 Guns, but parted company the 3rd Inſtant, and have seen nothing of them since.

12th March. Very fine mild day. No froſt. Wind N. W.

The Chatham, Roebuck, and Rawleigh came in laſt night and this Morning: The Chatham with the remainder of the Convoy from Charleſtown, the others from a Cruize.

Came in an Expreſs veſsel from Portsmouth Virginia, in 48 hours. All well there. Arnold has given credit to a report that Lord Cornwallis had paſsed the Roanoke, and entered Virginia, in consequence of which he had prepared to detach between 5 and 600 men up James's River to co-operate with him, but having some doubts of the truth of the report, from further information, & finding that the Commanding Officer of the Navy at that poſt would not aſsiſt him, but in compliance with the Admiral's orders had drawn the ships into shoal water, and would not move, he gave over the design. Lord Cornwallis has not advanced in the rapid manner that has been reported; it appears from the moſt authentic accounts that he is advancing with great caution and certainty.

'Tis thought the Expedition fleet will sail from hence for Virginia very soon, as the French fleet has not yet got out of Rhode Island, and as Cap^t^ Stapleton, went off expreſs yeſterday to The Admiral, supposed to say from the Commander in Chief, that if he will engage to keep the French Fleet in for a certain time, he will send off the Troops to Virginia under Convoy of such ships as are now here.

If the troops can only be landed at Portsmouth, there will be no further aſsiſtance wanted from the Navy.

13th March. Froſt laſt night, with a fresh wind at N. W. Very fine day. Clear and Cold. Fresh N. W. wind. Calm in the Evening.

The Fleet got under way from the Watering place, Staten Island, about 10 this Morning, and went through the Narrows.

If the fleet goes to Sea, and the present Wind holds, 'tis very probable they will make the Capes of Virginia in about 36 hours.

A party of the Refugees amounting to about 140, with a small field piece, marched from their poſt at Bergen point the Evening of the 11th Ins^t^ in order to surprize a Block house the Rebels have near Sneeding's ferry, and to deſtroy some boats they have at that place. They were joined at the three Pigeons by another party of Refugees from New York, and the whole proceeded on their march for the Block-house, but before they reached Cloſter, they were fired upon by several detached parties of Rebels, who had discover'd, or received information of their approach; the badneſs of the roads having prevented them from accomplishing their march within the time they expected, and finding they were discovered, and the Rebels aſsembling in numbers superior to them, they judged it moſt prudent to return to Bergen point, which place they reached yeſterday, having Skirmished with the Rebels the whole way. The Refugees loſt one man, who was killed by his horse falling, and had two wounded. They say the Rebels lost several men, but they could not ascertain the number.

We learn by some Officers who arrived in the Chatham, that the Aſsurance, 44 Guns, arrived from England with a Convoy at Charlestown, three days before they sailed from thence. Lieut Colonel Bruce, Aid de Camp to the Commander in Chief came in the Aſsurance, and of course must have brought with him the dispatches and information so long expected; but to the General's very great astonishment, he has remained there (tho' he knew of the Chatham's sailing for this place) has kept every thing with him and has not even wrote him a letter. He told the Officers he would follow them in a few days. Such conduct is hardly to be accounted for, but by those who know the man's character, which is whimsical, inconsistent, and extraordinary.

About 400 Recruits, mostly Germans, are arrived at Charlestown in the fleet which came out under Convoy of the Aſsurance. No Regiments yet arrived from Europe, to the Southward.

There is a report this Evening that The British fleet have quitted Gardner's bay.

The last accounts of the French Fleet are, that they continued at Newport.

14th March. Thick weather all day. Wind S. E. in the morning. Rain with a fresh wind at E. S. E. from 11 till 4.

Captain Stapleton returned last night from the E. end of Long Island. The British fleet sailed from Gardner's bay on Saturday the 10th Instant.

The Expedition fleet did not go to Sea yesterday. They are now at the Hook.

Came in a ship from London in 9 weeks. This ship fell in with The French fleet consisting of 11 Sail, on Sunday Morning, S. E. from the Chesapeak. On Monday he fell in with the British fleet, in Latitude 39° 40′, nearer in shore, and standing for the Capes of the Chesapeak, and then computed to be about 22 leagues from The French fleet. The Captain went on board Adml Arbuthnot's ship, and gave him every poſsible information; so that there is every reason to conclude that an Engagement must have happened by this time.

Letters of reprisal have been granted against The Dutch, & published in England the 20th Decr 1780.

British Fleet			*French Fleet*		
Ships	Guns	Commanders	Ships	Guns	Commanders
London	90	Rear Admiral T. Graves Captain Graves	Le Duc de Bourgogne	80	M. D'Astouches De Medine
Royal Oak	74	Vice Admiral Arbuthnot Captain Swiney	Le Neptune	74	De Granchain
Bedford	74	Captain Affleck	Le Conquerant	74	De Grandiere
Robuste	74	Captain Cosby	Le Provence	64	De Lombard
Europe	64	Captain Child	Le Jason	64	De Clochetterie
Prudent	64	Captain Burnett	L'Ardent	64	De Marigny
America	64	Captain Thompson	L'Eveillé	64	De Tilly
Adamant	50	Captain Johnson	Le Fantasque*	64	De Vandere
Pearl	32	Captain G. Montague	Le Surveillante	32	Villeneauve Cillard
Charlestown	32	Captain Evans	La Gentille	32	De la Villebrune
Iris	32	Captain Dawson	Le Hermione	32	De la Touche
Guadaloupe	28	Captain Robinson			
Amphitrite	24	Captain Biggs			
Galatea	20	Captain Reid			

* Came out Armée En Flute, probably now fitted for the line.

A Ship came in from Jamaica this day, in 21 days. She brings accounts of Sir George Rodney's having surprized the Dutch Island of St Eustatia, and seized an immense property, and a great number of veſsels there.

By the papers from Jamaica it appears that a 50 Gun ship, and above 80 Merchant men have been taken from the Dutch in Europe.

15th March. Some rain in the morning. Thick fog most part of the day. Mild weather. Little wind at S. W.

The Expedition fleet is at the Hook, and will not now move until the event of the expected engagement is known.

The French have no transports with them; but 'tis probable they have troops on board their ships of war. Their object certainly is, in conjunction with Fayette and the troops he marched with to the Southward, to attempt the reduction of the post at Portsmouth, and the capture of the troops and ships there.

Much depends upon the event of the Engagement which is expected between the two Fleets. Should the French fleet gain the Chesapeak before ours, it will be a difficult matter to act against them with any effect, and 'tis not improbable but in that case they will act in conjunction with the Rebel troops against Arnold. Should our fleet get off the Capes before theirs, the French will find their scheme frustrated, and an action must ensue. Our fleet is fully equal to theirs. The Bedford has been perfectly repaired, and the Masts of The Culloden put into her.

If the French are beaten, any ships that may escape must run for The West-Indies, and probably may be picked up by some of our Ships cruizing there. If the action is decisive against them, it will in a great measure determine the fate of America, and end the Rebellion; or at least prevent any further exertions of consequence on the part of the Rebels. On the contrary should the British fleet be beaten, this event, together with our having The Dutch added to the number of our Enemies, will revive the drooping spirits of the Rebels, and lose us most of our remaining friends in this country. Arnold's Detachment will probably fall, and the Rebels be enabled to make powerful efforts against Ld Cornwallis, who from being so far advanced into the Country, might find his retreat to Charlestown precarious and difficult. This indeed is the worst that can happen to us if our fleet is entirely beaten. Should the Engagement be indecisive, we have greater resources than the French, having several ships of force

State and Distribution of The Army. New York. 15th March 1781

Corps	Duty	Effec^{es}	Station		Duty	Effec^{s}
Royal Artillery	308	944	New York	New York Island	6023	7327
22d	335	408				
42d	587	660				
Landgrave	432	480				
Prince Charles	464	487				
1st Anspach	508	526				
2d Anspach	510	522	Kingsbridge			
Losberg & Knyphausen	204	228				
38th	352	404				
57th	309	352				
Graff	327	375				
Donop	421	461				
Losberg Junior	433	471	McGowan's			
Du Corps	468	481	North River			
Linsing	295	377	East River			
Guides & Pioneers	70	151	Holland's ferry			
17th Dragoons	279	370	Hampstead	Long Island	3569	4455
1st Grenadiers	459	473	Newtown			
2d Grenadiers	393	450				
17th	187	328	Denyces			
British Recruits	316	414	Brooklyn			
Diemars Huſsars	52	56	Utrecht			
Jagers	749	1036	Jericho & Herrick's			
Lengercke	351	370	Jamaica			
Loewenstein	344	376	Flushing			
3rd Delaney's	279	344	Lloyd's Neck			
2d New Jersey Vol^{rs}	124	186				
Loyal New Englanders	36	51				
37th	373	475		Staten Island	1495	1984
43rd	318	384				
Bunau	489	500				
1st New Jersey Volunteers	201	363				
4th D^{o}	114	262				
54th	349	407		Paulus hook	349	407
German Artillery	287	292	A detach^{t} with each Corps		287	292
1st Light Infantry	441	479	Total at N. York & posts depending		11723	14465
2d Light Infantry	488	514				
76th	556	652	On an Expedition, under the Command of M. Gen^{l} Philips		1919	2116
Prince Hereditaire	434	471				
Total	13642	16581	Total		13642	16581

here, with a sufficient quantity of Stores, by which means we could be soon refitted and in a condition to counteract their designs. But we must beat them — our all in a manner is at stake at present — Our fleet has done nothing brilliant yet during the war, (the capture of the Spanish Fleet off Cadiz excepted.) and a fortunate stroke at this fleet will set us up, & deter the French from sending another Armament to the aſsistance of the Rebels, who must then stoop to the correcting hand of the Mother Country.

The declaration against The Dutch is a bold stroke at this period of the war: but it shews the spirit of the Nation, and looks as if we were certain of aſsistance from some of the Maritime powers of Europe, who have hitherto been Spectators of this quarrel.

A decided battle against the French fleet in this Country, will give us great strength at this critical period.

16th March. Very fine day. Little wind at N. W.

The Raleigh, 32 Guns, Capt Gambier, got ashore yesterday afternoon on the ledge of Rocks at the S. W. point of Governor's Island, where she stuck, and has remained all last night and this day. Every means are using to lighten and get her off. Should bad weather come on, she will probably be lost, as the tides are very unfavorable.

A veſsel came in this Morning from Portsmouth, with dispatches from General Arnold. She left that place on Tuesday the 13th Inst but heard nothing of The French fleet. The Master says that on Wednesday he saw a fleet of Men of War near Cape Charles; a frigate chaced him, and fired two shot at him. They shewed no Colours, but he thinks they were British ships.

British Ships of War at New York. 15th March 1781

Chatham	50	Capt Ord	Between New York, and Sandy hook
Rainbow	44	Capt Kendall	
Roebuck	44	Capt Douglas	
Raleigh	32	Capt Gambier	
Richmond	32	Capt Hudson	
Orpheus	32	Capt Colpoys	
Halifax	16	Capt Bowers	
Savage	16	Capt Graves	
Bonetta	14	Capt Dundas	
Vulcan — Fireship		Capt Palmer	
Avenger	18	Capt George	Repairing at the Dock yard.
Beaumont	16	Capt Ruſsel	

Other Ships on the Station

Aſsurance	44	Coming with a Convoy from Charleſtown
Charon	44	At Portsmouth in Virginia
Thames	32	
Fowey	24	
Hope	18	
Otter	16	
Swift	16	
General Monk	14	
Medea	28	Cruizing to the Southward
Garland	24	Cruizing
Blonde	32	At Cape Fear River — N° Carolina
Delight	16	
Allegiance	20	At Halifax
Albany	16	
Loyaliſt	16	At Charlestown
Vulture	16	In the Sound

Recapitulation of The State of The Army, under the Command of General Sir Henry Clinton. New York. 15th March 1781

Stations	Rank & file	
	Fit for duty	Total Effectives
New York, and poſts depending	11723	14465
On an Expedition under the Command of M. Genl Leslie	1778	2274
On an Expedition under the Command of M. Genl Phillips	1919	2116
On an Expedition under the Command of B. Genl Arnold	1232	1553
South Carolina	4591	7254
Georgia	382	887
Eaſt Florida	382	438
Weſt Florida	750	1193
Nova Scotia	2718	3130
Bermuda	335	366
New Providence	58	143
Total Army	25868	33819

17th March. Remarkable fine day. Wind S.

The Sandwich packet came in laſt night in 9 days from Charleſtown. Lieut Col° Bruce Aid de Camp to The Commander in Chief, who arrived at Charleſtown lately in the Aſsurance from England, came in her.

They saw nothing of either fleet. The Aſsurance and her Convoy had not sailed from Charleſtown when the Sandwich left that place. The Aſsurance was then at Beaufort, taking in water.

The partizan parties of the Rebels, have been defeated in two or three places lately in South Carolina.

The laſt accounts from Lord Cornwallis say, that he was on the Roanoke the beginning of this Month, in pursuit of Green.

The Raleigh frigate was got off this morning without much damage.

18th March. Very fine Mild day. Little wind 'till after 2 o'Clock, then S. Cold and Cloudy after 5 o'Clock, and wind N. E.

The Expedition fleet was at anchor yeſterday afternoon without the Hook; but they came in again laſt night, and anchored within.

The Raleigh went down to Sandy-hook this day.

A Schooner came in laſt night from Penobscot. On her passage she retook a veſsel from New York, that had been taken by a Rebel Privateer which sailed from Rhode-Island the 10th Instt, in company with the French fleet, conſiſting of 13 Ships of War. The French have some troops on board, but their transports all remain at Rhode-Island. The prisoners suppose they were bound for Virginia.

The Rebel General Wadsworth was taken prisoner lately near Penobscot.

Convoy with The Expedition Fleet

Chatham	50	Capt Ord
Richmond	32	Capt Hudson — *Commodore*
Orpheus	32	Capt Colpoys
Raleigh	32	Capt Gambier
Roebuck	44	Capt Douglas
Bonetta	14	Capt Dundas
Halifax	16	Capt Bowers
Vulture	16	Capt Stirling
Vulcan — Fireship		Capt Palmer

By what we can learn Washington was at Rhode-Island when the French troops embarked; but it is very uncertain if the whole [?] went with the fleet.

19th March. Thick weather, and Rain moſt part of the day. Wind S.

Came in a Ship from Cork, which sailed under Convoy of The Aſsurance in laſt, but parted company on the paſsage.

The Vulture Sloop of war came down thro' the Sound from Gardner's bay, and anchored this Morning in the North River.

An Ensign and 12 Rebel Militia taken by The Refugees near Croton River, were brought into town this day.

20th March. Clear fine weather. Strong gale of wind at W. from 10 'till 4 this day. The wind fell towards night.

The Vulture went down to Sandy hook this Morning.

The Expedition fleet, with the troops under the Command of General Phillips, sailed this afternoon at 5 oClock. The whole were safe over the bar at 6, and having got together to the amount of 36 sail, at 7 oClock made sail with a fine wind for The Chesapeak. If this wind continues for two days the fleet will have reached the Capes of Virginia.

Altho' there has been no public account from The British fleet, since their being seen off the Capes, there is every reason to believe the Commander in Chief has received some private information respecting their situation, without which it would be highly imprudent to send out this fleet at this season. Should The French fleet have reached the Cheasapeak before ours, this fleet muſt be inevitably loſt; the Convoy with it not being of ſtrength sufficient againſt That of the Enemy.

The Raleigh was the only ship that drove this Morning during the gale; she was at [once?] obliged to cut away, and leave behind her, two Anchors which she had out. She went to Sea with only a Stream anchor, having left one at Governor's Island when ashore there. She lay to over the bar, and joined the fleet when they went out in the afternoon.

The Jupiter (late The Farge's French Eaſt Indiaman) of 30 Guns, bound to Carolina, sailed in Company with the fleet.

21st March. Moderate wind at W. all laſt night. Very fine day. Fresh wind at W. S. W., moſt of the day. More moderate towards night, but the wind more Southerly.

Several Guns fired towards the hook this afternoon.

A fire near the Dock yard at 12 this day, which at firſt created some alarm, but it was extinguished after burning a brew house where it firſt broke out.

By the Rebel accounts it appears that all the French troops are gone from Rhode-Island in their Men of war. It is certain their transports still remain there; but it appears improbable that they would put 4000 troops on board so few ships at this time of the year, and when there was every reason to expect an Action with The British fleet. Perhaps they may have embarked about 2000 men, whom they designed to throw into Virginia, and in conjunction with the Rebel troops aſsembled, or expected there, either make an attack upon Arnold, or march to oppose the progreſs of Lord Cornwallis.

We are all extremely anxious here at present. Should the French have gained the Chesapeak, the fleet which sailed yesterday will in all likelihood be taken, Arnold's Corps must fall, and Lord Cornwallis must retreat, by which we shall lose all that we have lately gained in the Carolinas, and the war will take a most unfortunate turn in this Country; but should our fleet arrive first, and the Reinforcement land in Virginia, the post at Portsmouth will be effectually secured, and a powerful diversion may be made in favor of Lord Cornwallis, who will have nothing to oppose him in his operations. Should the French fleet be entirely beaten, and several of their ships taken or lost, The French will lose all footing on this Continent.

If The French Fleet intend for the West Indies, (which some persons think not improbable) The Admiral will of course immediately send a sufficient force after them, and the remainder of the fleet now on this Coast will be sufficient to aſsist in effecting The Commander in Chief's intentions.

22^d^ March. Fine weather. Wind S. E.

Came in a Snow from S^t^ Augustine in 12 days. She saw no veſsel during her paſsage.

Came in last night a brig from Portsmouth in Virginia. She was sent from thence to reconnoitre a fleet of Men of war which anchored in Lynnhaven bay the Evening of the 18th Inst. She counted 7 of the line, a 50, and 3 frigates. She supposes them to be English, and they shewed English Colours, but as they did not answer the private signal made by her, tho' within two miles of them, the Officer Commanding her thought it prudent to come here, in pursuance of his orders; it not being known at Portsmouth that The British fleet had sailed in pursuit of the Enemy.

It is generally believed here, that the fleet seen in Lynnhaven bay is the British, which makes us easy with respect to the safety of the poſt at Portsmouth; should it prove otherwise, there is every reason to dread the moſt fatal consequences to the Corps under the Command of General Phillips.

23rd March. Rain, and fog moſt part of the day. Wind N. E.

Intelligence received this Evening that Lord Cornwallis having pursued Mr Green as far as he thought prudent, and driven him over the Roanoke into Virginia, with the loſs of all his Cannon and baggage, and many of the Prisoners taken by Morgan the 17th of January; had returned to, and taken poſt at Hillsborough Court house, in order to aſsemble the Loyaliſts in that Country and secure his communications.

Intelligence also that Congreſs have received certain information of the arrival of Admiral Arbuthnot's fleet in the Chesapeak; that Fayette had arrived with the troops under his Command at Annapolis, where he had left them, and proceeded down the bay towards Portsmouth in a small veſsel, which was chaced, and nearly taken by a frigate and a Cutter of ours, which obliged him to return to Annapolis, where he was providing for the security of the troops he commanded.

If General Phillips gets safe into Chesapeak, and has nothing to apprehend from The French fleet, he may poſsibly make an attempt on M. Fayette and his Corps.

LIEUT COCKELL

Lieutenant Cockell, late of the Marines, was appointed by Sir Henry Clinton in 1778, to be a Lieut in the 37th Regt; and in 1780 he was promoted by purchace to a Company in the 2d Battalion of the 60th Regt. By a letter from the Secy at War, dated 7th Decr 1780, he signified the Kings disapprobation of the promotion of Lt Cockell from the firſt, on account of his being brought into the Army from the Marines, and having obtained at once the Rank of Lieutenant. The Commander in Chief therefore directed those Commiſsions to be cancelled: but in order to reinſtate Mr Cockell, he appointed him on the   of March 1781, to be Ensign in the 71st Regt, dated 6th May 1780, (the oldeſt then Vacant), and the   March 1781, he was appointed to be Lieu^{t} in the same Reg^{t}, dated 9th Sep^{r} 1780, and on the he appointed him to the same Company he before had in the 60th Regiment, by purchace.

24th March. Clear day, and wind N. W. till about 5 in the evening, when it shifted to the S, and began to rain.

No account from Virginia, or the Admiral, which induces many to believe it is not The British fleet that was seen in Lynnhaven bay.

25th March. Rain 'till 10 o'Clock last night, soon after which it cleared up, with the wind at W. Sharp frost from 12 last night. Clear cold day. Wind N. W.

The Rebel papers mention that Sir George Rodney has seized the Dutch Islands of S^{t} Eustatia, and Curaçoa in the West Indies, and all the Dutch and other veſsels found in those harbours. The seizure of these Islands will give a fatal blow to the little remaining foreign trade of the Rebels. Eustatia in particular has always been the center of their trade with the West Indies; their exports have been principally to that Island, and they received from thence most of their West India commodities, and a great quantity of European goods. It has been no uncommon thing for the Merchants in this City to send veſsels with cargoes of coarse woolen goods to Eustatia, where they were sold to the Rebel Agents, who immediately shipped them for Philadelphia. Eustatia has been a sort of general Storehouse for all Nations, where each found a ready vent for the articles he had to dispose of, and might supply himself with what he had occasion for. The profit of the Dutch Merchants in consequence of such a traffic, may be easily imagined.

26th March. Fine weather. Wind S.

An expreſs veſsel arrived early this Morning from Admiral Arbuthnot, with an account of an action between The British and French fleets on the 16th Instant, off the Capes of Virginia. The action by no means decisive as to taking, or destroying any of the Enemy's ships, but entirely so in defeating the intentions of the French, who have retired, and thereby given up their design of effecting a Junction with Fayette and the Rebel troops in Maryland and Virginia.

Our fleet were at anchor in Lynnhaven bay, the 21st, and were to sail the next day in quest of the Enemy.

See the Admiral's account of the action, as published in the New York, & other papers.

Two veſsels arrived late laſt night expreſs from General Arnold, but with information that it was The French fleet at anchor in Lynnhaven bay. This miſtake was occasioned by The Admiral's having directed the whole fleet to hoiſt French colours, in order to decoy a Rebel veſsel that came down the bay in expectation of meeting The French fleet. The Admiral succeeded, and the veſsel was taken, with a French Officer and several pilots on board her.

Fayette is at Annapolis with the Rebel troops he took with him to act in conjunction with the French. Some of our ships of war are so ſtationed near him, that he muſt make a great detour if his intention is to return into Pennsylvania.

One of the veſsels from General Arnold, met the Expedition fleet 40 Miles E. of Cape May; they spoke with the Raleigh, and informed Capt Gambier, that The French fleet was at anchor in Lynnhaven bay, which he would not give credit to; and as long as the Maſter of this veſsel could see the fleet, they were ſtanding on for the Chesapeak.

By The Admiral's account General Arnold has been on board The fleet, so that all his apprehensions of danger are at an end.

27th March. Very fine weather. Fresh wind at N. W.

Yeſterday Evening arrived a veſsel from Liverpoole after 13 weeks paſsage. The 21st at night she fell in with a fleet of large ships, which croſsed her ſtanding to the N. by W. wind at S. W. They were 200 miles from the land, in Lat: 39° 40′. This muſt have been the French fleet, and there can be no doubt they were going to Boſton, or Rhode Island to refit.

I have no doubt they will go to Rhode-Island, where they certainly had taken care to be provided with some Maſts from the Eaſtward, in case of accidents. They will there be together again in a secure situation.

The disappointment of The French and Rebels in this their firſt attempt at a conjunct operation, muſt be very great, and moſt sensibly felt by them.

We have been relieved from a moſt critical situation, for had The French gained the Chesapeak, or beat The British fleet, the moſt ruinous consequences muſt have been the result; such as their having in the latter case the superiority at Sea so early in the Campaign, the loſs perhaps of Arnold's Corps, probably of that under General Phillips, and certainly a very superior force united and directed against Lord Cornwallis.

If the fleet seen by The Liverpoole ship was French, there is nothing to be apprehended for the safety of that under General Phillips.

28th March. Snow from 8 this Morning during the remainder of the day. But it did not lie much. Wind S. S. E.

Captain Beckwith, with 3 Subalterns and 80 men of the 37th Regiment, went from Staten Island last night in order to surprize the Rebel Guard at Elisabethtown. They landed about a mile above Crane's ferry on the Meadows, about 8 oClock, and got round the town without being discovered; two parties of an Officer and 20 men each, took poſseſsion of the two bridges, while the remainder attacked the Guard house from whence most of the Rebels fled on the first alarm. One shot only was fired by which a Soldier of the 37th was killed. Our people were not loaded. A Lieut and 21 men were made prisoners. Our party beat to arms in the town after the Rebel guard were dispersed, and the Rebels concluding that the party had retired, and that it was their own Drum that beat, came into town again, by which means the Officer and some others were taken. Captain Beckwith marched through the town to Crane's ferry, embarked there at one in the morning, and returned safe to Staten Island with the Prisoners.

29th March. Some Snow this morning with the wind at N. E., but at 10 it cleared up, the wind changed to the N. N. W. and the remainder of the day was clear and fine. Sharp frost, and fresh wind at N. W. towards night.

A report prevails that the French fleet has got back to Rhode Island.

A Rebel paper just received mentions the Capture of a Dutch fleet that had sailed from St Eustatia a few days before Sir George Rodney took that Island. Sir George having received information of the time they sailed and their force, dispatched some Copper-bottomed Ships in pursuit of them, they soon came up with them and an Engagement ensued, in which the Dutch Admiral was killed, and his whole fleet taken, consisting of a 50 Gun ship, three frigates, and above 20 Merchant ships deeply laden, & all homeward bound. Their value is said to be very great.

'Tis said there were above 6000 Hogsheads of tobacco at St Eustatia about 3 weeks before Sir George Rodney took that place.

A Hogshead of tobacco generally weighs from ten to twelve Hundred weight, Groſs —

Suppose on an average — 1120 lbs nett at 1s/ Sterlg pr lb
1 Hogshead £56
6,000 Hogsheads would amount to £336,000. Sterling

The loſs of one half of it is enough to ruin all the Rebel Merchants in America. The loſs of the other half would be severely felt by the Dutch Merchants.

30th March. Very fine weather. Strong wind at N. W. all day.

The Mercury Packet sailed for England about 9 this morning. The Buckskin Hero, a Stout Armed ship, lately taken from the Rebels, was to have sailed with her, but the wind having prevented the Master from coming from Staten Island, he was not able to go to Sea until the afternoon.

As The Commander in Chief has received no accounts from General Phillips since his sailing from the Hook the Evening of the 20th, and as there has been no certain information of either the British or French fleet since the 21st, he is under a good deal of anxiety for his safety, lest the French should have stood in for the Coast after the action of the 16th, and poſsibly have intercepted him. The Expedition fleet has now been 10 days out, and no account of them (except that brought by the Master of one of the expreſs veſsels from Portsmouth, who fell in with them off the Capes of the Delaware) but as yesterday and this day, the wind has been strong against any veſsel coming from the Southward, I think we can hardly expect to hear from the Chesapeak till the 1st or 2d. If any misfortune had happened to that fleet, we should have heard of it by this time from the Rebels.

31st March. Fine weather. Fresh wind at S. S. E, after 11 o'Clock.

A Rebel Mail going from the Eastward to Philadelphia, was brought in this Morning by Lieut John Moody of the 4th Battalion of New Jersey Volunteers. He went from hence for this very purpose the 25th Inst and after traversing the woods and Mountains with two other men and a guide, & being four days concealed near New Windsor, he at laſt intercepted the Poſt boy with the Mail on the 29th, about 5 Miles from that place, and brought them safe in.

Mr Moody received 100 Guineas for executing this enterprize.

This Mail contains a great number of letters, amongſt which are several from Mr Washington, from whence no doubt The Commander in Chief has received very material information.

There are several letters in the Mail from Rhode-Island and Providence, but in all their letters and papers not the leaſt mention is made of an Action between the fleets; nor is there any account of the French fleet having returned to Newport. 'Tis therefore probably they have endeavored to reach Boſton, but have been retarded by the Northerly winds which have prevailed of late. Perhaps some of their ships have been so disabled in the action, as to delay them; and this is in some measure confirmed by the report of the Maſter of the Liverpoole ship which fell in with them in the night, who says he found he outsailed them, and was obliged to hand some of his sails to prevent his running ahead of them. When he firſt fell in with them, he changed his course and ſteered the same they did to avoid being suspected, until he had an opportunity of slipping away from them.

Many here believe The French are gone to Boſton as a port of the greateſt safety, and because 'tis said they can get maſts at no other place, but I am ſtill of opinion we shall soon hear of their arrival at Rhode Island, for as they certainly meant to keep that port as long as they held any place in America, they would take care to provide some lower Maſts for their large ships there in case of accidents. Perhaps they had some brought there in a large ſtore ship, which came round lately from Boſton under Convoy of two of their frigates. It is not improbable that they brought out some spare Maſts in the Fantasque. Should any of their ships have been crippled so as to be unable to make sail, Admiral Arbuthnot may poſsibly overtake them before they reach their intended port.

1st April. Fine morning. Wind N. Cloudy and slight rain after 12 o'Clock, with the wind N. E. Heavy rain and Strong gale of wind at E. towards night.

Came in an armed Brig in 10 days from Penobscot.

Some letters of Ethan Allen's, concerning the affairs of Vermont, shew the favorable disposition of the people of that Country, and their inclination to return to their obedience to Great Britain. They ſtill declare for their being a seperate State independent of the other 13, and aſsert their right to treat with Great Britain for a seperate peace.

The Commander in Chief is poſseſsed of some letters from Washington to his Son Lund Washington, which are said to contain his private opinions of the ſtate of the Rebel affairs, and on other matters of great consequence.

A letter from Bourdeaux says, that in consequence of the death of the Empreſs Queen, the French troops that had been under orders of embarkation for America, had been countermanded, and the design of sending any more to this Continent laid aside. That Event and the Dutch war may poſsible oblige France to keep her troops at home, as employment may be found for them in Europe.

2d April. Rain and Strong wind moſt part of laſt Night. Thick weather all this day, and fresh wind at N. N. E. Some small rain.

No arrivals, nor the leaſt information from any of the fleets.

A report from Staten Island, that a Rebel Major belonging to The New York troops, had brought an account into Jersey of an Action between the British Army under the Command of Lord Cornwallis, and that of the Rebels under Mr Green, near the Roanoke, in which the Rebels were totally defeated, and with great slaughter.

3rd April — Thick weather all day, and some rain. Fresh wind at N. W. No froſt for several days paſt.

Three small veſsels came in laſt night from the Chesapeak.

There are several accounts thro' the Rebels of an Action near Guildford Court house in North Carolina between the British and Rebel Armies, in all of which they acknowldge a defeat.

Some Rebel papers give an account of the Action between the British & French fleets on the 16th paſt, which is not materially different from ours.

The French fleet certainly returned to Newport, Rhode Island the 25th of March. Their loſs of men in the late action is considerable, by their own accounts.

— 3rd Ap. The account of the action of the 16th March was published by us. —

British Fleet — 16th March 1781	
London	90
Royal Oak	74
Bedford	74
Robuſte	74
America	64
Europe	64
Prudent	64
Adamant	50
Iris	32
Pearl	32
Guadaloupe	28

French fleet — 16th March 1781	
Le duc de Bourgogne	80
Le Neptune	74
Le Conquerant	74
Le Jason	64
L'Ardent	64
L'Evielle	64
Le Provence	64
Le Romulus	44
Le Surviellante	32
La Gentille	32
Le Hermione	32
Le Fantasque (Flute)	24

4th April. Very fine day. Fresh wind at N. N. W, 'till 4 o'Clock, when it fell.

Further accounts from the Rebels of the defeat of Green's army. It appears by all their accounts, that they attacked Lord Cornwallis and were defeated with great loſs.

5th — Very fine day. Wind S.

Came in The Mayflower, an expreſs veſsel dispatched from hence the   of March to the Chesapeak for intelligence. She brings letters from Generals Phillips and Arnold. General Phillips arrived safe at Portsmouth with the troops under his Command on the 25th March. No attempt had been made by the Rebels on that poſt.

The British Fleet continues at anchor in Lynnhaven bay, and has been there ever since the action.!!! The Prudent and Robuſte suffered a good deal in that affair.

Private letters from Portsmouth, and the fleet lay great blame on The Admiral, and say that had our fleet been well conducted on that day, we should have gained a complete Victory.

The defeat of Green's Army by that under the Command of Lord Cornwallis near Guildford Courthouse, is confirmed. It happened the 15th of March. See Green's letter to Congreſs.

6th April — Thick weather, and warm. Wind W. Some rain after 7 in the Evening.

A good many Cannon heard early this Morning to the Southward of Long Island. In the afternoon a pilot boat came up from The Hook with information, that The Medea frigate in coming round from Chesapeak, had fallen in with a Rebel

Schooner Privateer of 8 Guns and 25 men, off the hook, (where she had just taken a pilot boat) and had drove her ashore on Long Island and taken her. She also retook the pilot boat.

7th April — Thick weather. Wind N. E. in the morning and E. in the afternoon.

The Medea came up about 5 this afternoon. Some of the accounts in the Rebel papers say, that 900 of the Carolina Militia were killed and wounded in the action at Guildford Court house, and that a whole Virginia Regiment is miſsing. If it is true, as has been said, that the Rebels previous to their defeat, put 120 of our prisoners to death sooner than suffer them to be retaken, it is no wonder they lost so many men that day, as the fury of the British troops must have been roused at the knowledge of so base an action. But I cannot believe there is any truth in such a report; for it is highly improbable the Rebels would bring any prisoners with them as they intended to attack our Army, and if they took them in the beginning of the Action, the circumstances would hardly have afforded them time, when they found they were likely to be defeated, to commit so horrid & cruel an act. We have Murders enough to lay to their charge, without making up so bloody a Story as this seems to be.

The Rainbow, 44 Guns, came round from the Dock yard, and anchored in the North River.

8th April. Thick weather with the Wind N. E. till 10 o'Clock, soon after which it cleared up and the Wind shifted round by the S, to the W, and N. W. and from 12 'till night it blew very hard.

A Ship from Portsmouth in England came in this Morning, after a paſsage of 11 weeks & 4 days. No news by her.

A Signal this day for three or four ships, but the strong wind in the afternoon made it impoſsible for them to get in.

9th April — Strong cold wind at N. W. all last night and most part of this day.

The Ships that were seen off yesterday, have been blown off the Coast by the violence of the N. W. wind, as there is no appearance of them this day.

The fleet from Lynnhaven bay, also transports from Chesapeak for 3700 men, are daily expected here.

Further accounts have been published by the Rebels of their loſs in the action of the 15th of March in Carolina, amounting

Rebel Return of their loſs in the Action at Guildford Court house. N^{o} Carolina. 15th March 1781

Corps	Killed						Wounded							Missing							Total
	Majors	Captains	Subalterns	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & file	Brig^{r} Gen^{ls}	Majors	Captains	Subalterns	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & file	Brig^{r} Gen^{ls}	Majors	Captains	Subalterns	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & file	
Virginia Regulars	.	1	2	3	.	23	1	.	.	.	4	.	35	.	.	.	.	.	.	39	108
Maryland D^{o}	1	.	1	2	.	11	.	.	5	.	1	.	36	.	.	.	.	3	6	88	154
Delaware Batt^{n} 1 Comp^{y}	.	.	.	.	.	7	.	.	.	2	.	.	11	.	.	.	.	.	2	13	35
Detachm^{ts} of Cavalry	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	2	2	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	14
Partizan Legion	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	1	.	.	.	7	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	18
1st Virginia Militia	.	2	.	.	.	9	1	.	1	4	.	.	30	.	1	1	3	3	.	133	188
2^{d} D^{o}	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	2	.	.	13	.	.	.	1	3	.	83	104
Rifle Regiments	.	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	1	1	.	13	.	.	1	7	8	.	78	113
N^{o} Carolina Militia	.	.	.	.	.	6	.	.	1	1	.	.	3	.	.	2	9	.	.	552	574
N^{o} Carolina Cavalry	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
One Reg^{t} of N^{o} Car^{a} Mil^{a} Artillery	No	Re	tur	ns	of	th	eir	loſs													
Total	1	5	3	5	.	65	2	1	11	12	6	.	153	.	1	4	20	17	8	996	1310

Brigadier General Huger — Virginia Regulars } Wounded
Brigadier General Stevens, Virginia Militia }

to above 1300 men, besides that of some Corps of which no return has been made. They acknowledge the loſs of all their Cannon.

10th April — Hazy weather. Wind N. E. Rain after 4 o'Clock.

A Signal at 12 o'Clock for a Fleet of men of war, and one of Merchant ships or Transports. 'Tis supposed they are Admiral Arbuthnot's fleet, and the empty transports from Chesapeak.

The laſt letters from the Chesapeak are full of complaints of the improper conduct of Admiral Arbuthnot, in not taking or deſtroying the whole French fleet in the action of the 16th March, when he had it in his power to have done so.

Came in a Ship from St Kitts in 33 days; also a flag of truce from Rhode Island.

11th — Heavy rain and high wind at E. moſt part of laſt night. Clear fair Morning, with a fresh cold wind at W.

The fleet of Men of war got within the Hook laſt night, and anchored there. The transports came thro' the Narrows, and anchored between Staten Island, and the town. They left Lynnhaven bay the 5th Inſtant.

If the Admiral does not go out from hence very shortly, and cruize off Rhode Island (where the French fleet are preparing for Sea) with a superior force, we shall ſtill be under apprehensions from them. Besides they will certainly publish to the world that we got the worſt of it in the action of the 16th, and as a proof of it will say, that our fleet after lying near 20 days in Lynnhaven bay to refit and enable it to get to New York, had at laſt taken shelter in that port. If they can get to Sea firſt this will certainly be believed. If the British fleet had gone from the Chesapeak as soon as the 22d of March, and appeared off Rhode Island, our superiority would have been apparent and confeſsed; and the affect it would have had upon the Rebels would have been of the utmoſt service to us and our friends. After parading there for a few days The Admiral might have returned here with some credit, and refitted his Ships for Service in good time; but now after waſting near three weeks in Lynnhaven bay and doing nothing, he sneaks into port to refit when the Enemy are nearly ready. He certainly has no intention now of going off Rhode Island till the ships are refitted, otherwise he would not have come in over the bar.

Great diſsentions prevail in our fleet, and mutual blame is thrown by the Admirals on each other. Even the ships Crews, abuse each other. 'Tis generally thought and said, that had our fleet been well conducted, we might have entirely destroyed that of the French.

The Admiral dispatched The Raleigh frigate to England the 3rd Instant, witht giving The Commander in Chief the least intimation of his intentions. Such conduct is very uncommon.

There are frigates or Sloops of war stationed near most of the great Rivers in the Chesapeak to obstruct the trade of the Rebels, — and, to take prizes. Hogsheads of tobacco are very pretty things.

The Chatham, 50 Guns, was sent from the fleet on the paſsage from Chesapeak; her destination not generally known.

11th The Ships arrived are —

London	90	America	64
Robuste	74	Europe	64
Royal Oak	74	Adamant	50
Bedford	74	A frigate of	32
Prudent	64		

and about 17 empty transports, being those that carried General Phillips's Corps from hence to Portsmouth —

Copy of an Original letter from Lt Blackwell, to Lt Mears,
dated on Board the London, Lynhaven Bay,
19th Mar 1781 —

DEAR MESSMATE.

You will doubtleſs be glad to hear our fleet anchored here last night, & I aſsure you it is no small satisfaction to me to be personally aſsisting in delivering my Meſsmates from the Claws of Monsieur, for we all feared we should arrive too late. Last Friday Morning at day break, it being thick and rainey, we discovered the French fleet near in with the Capes, & to Windward of us: we immediately gave chace, & formed the line ahead; the French formed their line, & kept the Wind: Our ships sailed faster than theirs, and in the course of the Forenoon we paſsed each other on different tacks several times, their Line consisting of 7 Sail of the Line, and the Romulus; ours of 7 Sail of the Line, and the Adamant: Each Fleet 3 frigates. As we gained upon them our Operations were great. At 1 o'Clock the French Division bore down on us for Action: our line was not well Closed, so that the force of the Action, was aimed at, and fell on our Van, which was the Robuste & Prudent, who were obliged to edge away. The Action began at ½ past One, both fleets before the wind, under topsails. Three ships were on the Robuste at one time, and they were engaged half an hour before they could be supported by our Center; The Rigging, Masts, & Yards of the Robuste & Prudent shot to pieces, & consequently raked by the Enemy, and drove out of the Line. The London engaged the French Commodore smartly, but they kept at long shot and shot away the London's Main topsail yard. The French wore and paſsed our line a second time, and sheered off in good order. Our disabled ships obliged our fleet to stay by them which we did all the Evening and night. The Rear of both fleets fired but few shots. We have no other claim to the Victory but that of remaining Masters of the field of Action.

I here send you an Account of the Killed and Wounded. The French must have suffered something, as they were seen since under slow sail, jogging large. Had they tried, they must have cut us up confoundedly when the Robuste and Prudent were so much disabled. But we are pretty ready again.

	Killed	Wounded
London	..	9
America	..	4
Prudent	13	22
Robuste	23	25
Royal Oak	..	3
Adamant	..	..
Bedford	..	..
Europe	8	15
Total	44	78

I am of opinion had our Line been well closed before the Action commenced, (and which only lasted an hour) we should have given a very good account of them: but they certainly have got a Sickener. The French behaved bravely; nor had we one shy Cock; but were unfortunate in having two of our ships disabled at the first of the Action. We shall be out again immediately after the French fleet.

A large French frigate was at anchor yesterday under the Capes, which the Royal Oak chaced 'till Sunset without succeſs, supposed to be a veſsel from the French fleet. We were obliged to tow the Robuste and Prudent in here; but they are ready for the Line occasionally. We spoke a letter of Marque at Sea from England. War is declared against Holland, and above 70 sail of Merchant ships, and one 50 Gun ship has already been taken. The Isis fell in with one of their 50's, and left her after firing two broadsides into her. The Foudroyant fell in with two of their East-Indiamen, but not knowing of the Dutch War she left them.

Yrs

&c. —

12th April. Fine morning. Cloudy and Cold after 11 o'Clock. Wind W. S. W.

Admiral Arbuthnot's fleet came up from Sandy hook this day. The Royal-Oak, Bedford, Robuste, and Prudent, anchored in the North River. The others at the watering place Staten Island. Those ships that came into the North River want repairing.

Came in a Schooner taken by the Chatham. She was one of a fleet of 30 Sail from Cape Francois to Philadelphia, under Convoy of The Confederary and Deane, two Rebel Frigates of force. There are hopes that The Chatham, and some other ships cruizing off the Delaware, will fall in with the rest of them.

13th April. Clear cold day. Frost last night. Fresh wind at N. W.

The Prudent came round this afternoon from the North River to the Dock yard in the East River. The other three ships are also to come round to repair. These repairs will take up 8 days by the accounts of our Naval Gentlemen. But I am of opinion we shall not see our fleet in readineſs to go out before the 1st of May.

As soon as The French know that our ships are come up from The hook, and that four of them are come into the East River to repair, they will go out from Rhode Island, and either again push for The Chesapeak, or endeavor with small Squadrons to intercept our fleets bound for this port, or cut off our cruizing ships. The utmost exertions should therefore be made in refitting our ships for Sea.

The Aſsurance 44 Guns, is expected from Charleſtown with a valuable Convoy, should they fall into the Enemy's hands we shall be much diſtreſsed by it.

Some of our Captains who commanded ships in the late Engagement, talk very freely of the misconduct on that day. It is publickly said by them, that had all our ships done their duty, the whole French fleet muſt have been taken. They say that The Conquerant, and Ardent absolutely ſtruck to our ships, but hoiſted their Colours again on being fired into by The French Admiral. Some say our Admirals fired at each other. Our worſt sailing ships were certainly the firſt in action, and some of those with Copper bottoms did not engage at all. When Officers prefer the gratification of private picque, to serving their Country, they should be punished with double severity.

Much was done by preventing the Enemy from getting into the Chesapeak, but the deſtruction or capture of their fleet with 2000 troops on board it, would have totally deſtroyed the hopes of the Rebels, and been a fatal blow to France.

14th April — Hard froſt laſt night, and fresh cold wind at N. W. all night. Ice half an inch thick this Morning. Cold day, & fresh wind at W.

The Royal Oak, Robuſte and Bedford came round from the North River, and anchored in the Eaſt River this afternoon. The Royal-Oak touched on Governor's Island, but got off immediately without damage.

There are many yards and topmaſts wanting in these four ships, which will take up a considerable time in preparing, especially as they do not seem to work with any great spirit in the Dock-yard on the occasion. In the present circumſtances, it surely would be proper and juſtifiable to oblige every Shipwright in this town, to work on these ships; and many more means might be used to facilitate their watering.

Transports are preparing for the reception of 3000 troops.

The Sound is now so infeſted with Rebel Privateers and armed whaleboats, that hardly any veſsel dare go so far as Lloyd's Neck.

No Ship of war in the Sound.

15th April — Froſt again laſt night. Wind W. this Morning and more moderate. S. W. wind after 11 oClock.

Came in The Richmond, 32 Guns, Captain Colpoys, from The Chesapeak, with a prize sloop.

16th — Pleasant weather. Wind N. W. in the Morning, and S. W. in the afternoon.

Came in The Charon, 44 Guns, Captain Symons from a Cruize, with a Rebel Privateer of 14 guns and 40 men, and some other prizes.

Major Meibom and another Officer of the Brunswick troops, were carried off laſt night from Yellow hook, by a Rebel party that came in a whaleboat (supposed) from the Rariton. This Officer had 90 men of the Brunswick troops under his Command, and 'tis supposed neglected the usual means of guarding his quarters, by being cantoned within the Narrows, and seeing the Fleet so near him.

17th — Fine weather, but cold for the season. Cloudy in the Morning. Wind W.

Came in a prize brig laden with tobacco, from Philadelphia to some port in Sweden.

There does not appear to be that exertion and activity in repairing the fleet, that might be expected at so critical a period as the present, and 'tis much to be feared that the French will get out before ours is near ready.

They certainly receive the moſt perfect information of the ſtate of our fleet, and will take advantage of it.

Some Officers of Navy speak more freely than ever of Admiral Arbuthnot's conduct on the 16th March, and say he deserves to be hanged. Others say they will bring him to a Court Martial.

The Admirals Arbuthnot and Graves do not speak, and the fleet is divided into parties. While such diſsentions prevail, nothing great can be expected.

18th April — Very fine day. Wind S.

It is intended to send some troops on board our fleet when it goes out next. The Commander in Chief has certainly offered The Admiral every aſsiſtance in that way he can poſsibly give him.

19th April — Thick weather and Some rain. Wind E. moſt part of the day, but N. W. and clear towards Evening.

Came in The Roebuck, 44 Guns, Captain Douglas, with the Confederacy, a Congreſs Frigate of 36 Guns, and 300 men, which she took a few days ago off the Delaware; She was bound from Cape Francois to Philadelphia, and has on board a very large quantity of Clothing, Arms, &c, on account of Congreſs, valued at £50,000 Sterling — She struck without firing a Shot. The Roebuck has but 280 men on board.

The Capture of this ship will be very severely felt by The Rebels.

Two Privateers from Montserrat, a Ship from Lisbon in 11 weeks, and a Ship from Jamaica, came in last night, and this day.

20th — Thick weather all day. Raw and cold. Wind N. E. Wet fog in the afternoon.

The Admiral is endeavoring to get a number of The Loyal Refugees to enter on board The fleet for the next Cruize or Expedition. Every offer of prize-money, pay, &c is made to them to induce them to serve on the present occasion. The board of Directors are very active in forwarding this matter.

21st April — Very fine day. Clear and pleasant. Wind W. N. W.

'Tis reported that the French fleet is gone out from Rhode Island. I believe there is no certainty of this, but they certainly have been for some time past preparing for Sea with great diligence. The French can have no particular enterprize in view if they intend going out from Rhode-Island, unleſs it is to get into The Chesapeak, and by securing the upper part of the bay facilitate the movement of troops to the Southward against Lord Cornwallis. They will hardly attempt the post at Portsmouth, after such a reinforcement has been thrown in there. Perhaps their only intention is, by getting to Sea first, to induce the world to believe we suffered more materially in the late Engagement than they did.

500 Troops are to be embarked on board the Fleet previous to its sailing from hence. 'Tis said the fleet will be ready on Monday the 23rd Inst. I do not think they will. However the troops are to embark on Monday.

22d April — Very fine weather. Wind W. in the morning, & E. after 2 o'Clock.

Signals early this Morning for a fleet of Men of war, and Merchants ships or transports. The whole came up this afternoon, and anchored safe in the harbour. The fleet consists of The Aſsurance 44 Guns, Captain , Charlestown, 32, Capt Evans, Amphitrite 24, Capt Biggs, and ; also about

40 other veſsels, principally transports, from Charleſtown; with Clothing, Camp Equipage, Military & Naval Stores, &c, &c, &c; also some Recruits for the Brunswick, and other foreign troops in Canada. The Aſsurance has brought out a large sum of Money in specie for the Army.

Copy of a Letter from lord Cornwallis, to L^{d} Rawdon —

Camp at Guildford 17th March 1781

My Lord —

General Greene having been very considerably reinforced from Virginia by Eighteen-Months-men, and Militia, and having collected all the Militia of the Province, advanced with an Army of about five or 6000 men, and 4, Six pounders to this place. I attacked him on the 15th and after a very sharp action routed his Army, and took his Cannon. The great fatigue of the troops, the number of Wounded, and the want of provisions, prevented our pursuing them beyond the Reedy Fork.

Lieu^{t} Col° Stuart, and Cap^{t} Goodriek of the Guards, Lieu^{t} Robinson of the 23rd, Ensign Talbot, 33rd, Ensign Grant 71st, and Lieu^{t} O'Hara of the Artillery, are killed. Cap^{t} Schutz of the Guards is Mortally wounded. No other Officer in danger.

I shall send my Aid de Camp, Cap^{t} Broderick, to England with the particulars; in the mean time I beg you will transmit the contents of this note thither, and to The Commander in Chief.

I am &c

Cornwallis.

The safe arrival of this fleet is an event of the utmoſt consequence at present, and eases us of all our fears for the Clothing, Camp Equipage, and other neceſsaries for the Army, which if intercepted by The French would have proved of the utmoſt ill consequence to us, and the greateſt benefit to the Rebels.

Veſsels arrived laſt night from London; Jamaica, Bermuda, Halifax, and Lisbon: also one from Portsmouth in Virginia.

By the laſt accounts from Lord Cornwallis, the loſs on our side in the Action near Guildford was about 600 men. Many valuable Officers were loſt by us on that day. Lord Cornwallis with about 1900 men, attacked the Rebel army conſiſting of near 5,000, Strongly poſted, and totally defeated it.

Lord Cornwallis has since removed his Army to Wilmington in North Carolina.

All quiet in South Carolina when the Fleet sailed.

Came in this Evening The Chatham, 50 Guns, Capt Ord. She lately met at Sea, the Cormorant Sloop of War, which sailed from England the 19th of February, with the January Mail. The Chatham brought the New York Mail in here, and dispatched The Cormorant to Charlestown with a Mail for that place.

23rd April — Fine morning. Wind N. E. all day. Raw and cold, with small rain after 3 o'Clock. Heavy rain at 10 at Night.

24th — Rain most part of this day. Wind E.

Came in a flag of truce from Rhode Island. The French fleet were all there when she left it. One of their ships was so much

Officers killed and Wounded, the 15th March 1781 — Guildford

Killed		Wounded		
Lt Col: Stuart	Guards	Capt Wilmousky	Bose's Regt	Since dead
2d Lt Robinson	23rd	Eigenbrodt	Do	
Ensign Talbot	33rd	Lt Schwaner	Do	
Ensign Grant	71st	Geise	Do	
Lt O'Hara	Royl Arty	Ens: De Frott	Do	Dangerously

	Wounded	
Brigr Gen: O'Hara	Guards	Thigh & breast
Brigr Gen: Howard	Do	Foot
Capt Goodricke	Do	Since dead
Swanton	Do	
Maynard	Do	Arm; very dangerously
Lord Douglas	Do	Will lose his Arm
Schutz	Do	Since dead
Ens: Stuart	Do	Dangerously
Adjt Colquhoun	Do	
Capt Peter	23rd	Leg
Colonel Webster	33rd	Since dead
Lt Salvin	Do	
Lt Wynyard	Do	
Ens: Kelly	Do	Leg
Gore	Do	Collar bone
Hughes	Do	
Adjt Fox	Do	Collar bone
Lt Col: Tarleton	Legion	Lost 2 fingers, Right hand

Lt Col: Hall	Guards	Killed	on the March into No Carolina
Lt Chapman	23rd	Wounded	
Capt Ingram	33		

damaged in the late action, that they have been obliged to heave her down. The troops that were on board have been disembarked; and 'tis said they are to march into the Country to join the Rebel troops.

I am of opinion the junction of the French and Rebel troops, would be productive of some good consequences to us. The Desertion from the French would probably be very great, and they would be aſsisted in it by such of the Rebels as are inclined to come over to us, who would serve them as guides.

The animosities which naturally subsist between the French & Americans, would be encreased by their being together; and the vanity of the French Soldiers, with that superiority they would endeavor to aſsume over the Rebels, would in all probability be augmented to our advantage.

Memd^{m}

I was this day aſsured by Captain Chads of The Navy, principal Agent of transports, that the expence of Cartage only, in removing the Commiſsary's Stores out of one of the Churches, which was lately converted into a Riding house, amounted to above £600 — Sterling: besides the loſs of four or five puncheons of Rum which were staved by accidents in the removal.

A Victualler — For 12 months

750 Tons, at 12s/9d p^{r} ton, p^{r} Month — £5737.10.0 Sterl^{g}.

25th April. Foggy all day. Mild moist weather. Wind N. E. in the Morning, and S. E. the remainder of the day. Heavy rain about 10 at night.

Two ships are come within Sandy Hook from England, after a short paſsage.

Lord Cornwallis's victory was this day announced to The Army, and this Garrison ordered to be in readineſs to fire a Feu de joye on the occasion when the weather permits.

26th — Thick weather all day. Some rain in the morning. Heavy rain from Six in the Evening 'till 10. Wind N. E.

The Royal Oak, went out of the East River this Morning, and anchored between Governor's Island, and Bedloe's Island. The Richmond also anchored in The North River.

The Victuallers arrived in the last fleet, are unloading as fast as poſsible. One of them named The Shrewsbury, is now discharging her cargo. She measures 750 tons, and is hired at the rate of 12s/9d Sterling pr ton pr Month. She has been already 12 months in the service.

The Confederacy, upon unloading, appears to be of much greater value than was at firſt imagined. Tis now said her Cargo will produce near £100,000 Sterling.

The French fleet are said to be nearly ready for Sea at Newport. It is reported that The Hermione Frigate is arrived there from The Delaware with some veſsels under her Convoy laden with flour. It was known some time ago that the above mentioned ship was at Cheſter, and that she was bound for Newport. 'Tis said she was seen the Evening she came out of the Delaware by The Orpheus, who chaced her, but that a Rebel brig having fallen in with the Orpheus, the Chace was given over. If she has escaped, our Naval Gentlemen deserve blame. But we are too apt at present to credit reports to The Admiral's disadvantage.

Ships of War at New York. 26th April 1781

London	90	
Royal Oak	74	
Bedford	74	
Robuſte	74	
America	64	
Prudent	64	
Europe	64	
Adamant	50	
Chatham	50	
Rainbow	44	
Roebuck	44	
Aſsurance	44	
Charleſtown	32	
Richmond	32	
Medea	28	
Amphitrite	24	
Avenger	18	Repairing
Halifax	16	
Beaumont	14	
Confederary	36	Unloading

We abound in Ships of war in this harbour at this time.

The Rebels have taken a Packet that sailed from Jamaica in February for England, and have carried her into New London. They have been ſucceſsful of late in taking several veſsels bound for this port, and for Charleſtown; particularly a Victualler, which is of great value to them.

By The Rebel accounts, we have taken all the Dutch Islands and Settlements in the West Indies, except Surinam, and Curaçoa.

27th April — Very fine day. Wind N. N. E.

Came in a ship from Jamaica.

Orders given for the 17th, and 43rd Regiments, and the two Battalions of Anspach, to be in readineſs to march on the shortest notice.

These troops are intended for Virginia. 'Tis now *said*, that the fleet will be ready to sail in two days.

28th — Very fine day. Wind N. N. E. in the morning, and S. after 12 o'Clock.

Came in The Fair Rhodian, a Brig from Madeira with wine. She was attacked yesterday off the Hook by a Rebel privateer Schooner, but outsailed her, and got off.

The Admiral's pilot, went on board his ship this morning to persuade him to order the large ships to get out of the East River while the wind was fair, lest by a change of weather they should be detained there; but The Admiral went very early this morning to Jamaica on Long Island, so that the opportunity was lost.

Tis said that a 64, two frigates, and 25 sail of veſsels are gone out from Newport.

It is really unpardonable that our fleet continues so long inactive in this harbour.

By some accounts from the Country we are informed that part of The French troops, are on their march from Rhode Island to Garrison the Forts in The Highlands, in order that Washington may detach the troops now there to the Southward.

Congreſs have resolved that General Burgoyne, and all other Officers absent on parole in Europe, shall be immediately recalled.

29th April — Very fine morning 'till 1 o'Clock, Wind from W. to S. At 1 a thick wet fog came in from Sea. Wind E. The fog encreased towards night, when it became so thick and wet as to make the trees drop, as if it rained.

Came in a Ship from Madeira, in 10 weeks, with wine.

The troops under orders for Embarkation, received orders to embark toMorrow at 9 o'Clock.

Intelligence at 5 this afternoon that The French fleet, with about 2500 troops, were to sail from Rhode Island this day at the farthest, supposed for the Chesapeak. They conclude our fleet is not in a condition to follow them. About 20 transports sailed a few days ago with provisions, from Newport for the West Indies. The Hermione arrived at Newport from the Delaware with some veſsels under her convoy laden with flour. The French troops had marched towards Providence, but returned again and embarked immediately.

The Commander in Chief is of opinion the French intend for York River in Virginia, to establish themselves there.

The Admiral declares our fleet will sail on Tuesday the 1st May. I think he will not be ready for some days after.

There are now 25 sail of Pendants in this harbour, and the Rebels are every day taking veſsels in sight of the hook, yet the Admiral says he has not a frigate to send to cruize.

The Roebuck went down to the watering place Staten Island.

Transports for the Troops to embark toMorrow

Corps	Ships	Tons	Men
17th Regiment	Charming Nancy	443	243
43rd Regiment	Apollo	360	392
	Bellona	308	
1st Anspach	Alicia	320	617
	Providence	320	
	Ocean	299	
2d Anspach	Alexander	430	598
	Wisk	272	
	Caledonia	209	
Convalescents, Stores, Baggage, &c. &c. &c.	Nicholas & Jane	340	
	Sally	368	

30th April — Foggy weather all day. Some rain in the afternoon. Wind S. E.

The 17th and 43rd Regiments, the two Battalions of Anspach, and the Recovered men belonging to the Corps now in Virginia, embarked this morning at 9 o'Clock.

The Combined Battalion, marched this Morning from Kingsbridge to New York. They are to go toMorrow to Denyces ferry. The Regiment of Bunau replaced the 43rd.

N. B. The Combined Battalion is composed of the remains of the Regiments of Loſsberg, Knyphausen & Ralle, taken at Trenton in Decr 1776.

No movement of the men of war, except that the Bedford came into the North River this Evening from the East River.

1st May — Very fine day. Wind S. E.

The transports with the two Anspach Regiments, and the Recover'd men, went down this day to the watering place Staten Island.

The horses belonging to the Corps now embarked, were put on board the veſsels appointed for them, & they all went down to Staten Island.

The troops now embarked on board The transports amount to above 1600 Rank & file. They are under the Command of Colonel De Voit of the 1st Battalion of Anspach.

There are also 492 British and Provincial troops embarked on board The fleet.

The two Battalions of Heſsian Grenadiers from Jamaica & Flushing, croſsed from Brooklyn this Morning and took up the quarters of the Anspachers in this town. The 2ed Battalion British Grenadiers, marched this Morning to Jamaica, and replaced the Battalion of Lengercké. The Combined Battalion was to have paſsed to Brooklyn this Morning, and marched from thence to Denyces, but by a mistake respecting boats, they were detained in town.

If the Robuste and Prudent could have got out of the E. River this afternoon, the whole fleet might have gone to Sea in the morning if the wind permitted. The Prudent did attempt to get out, but was near running aShore nigh the wharfs, and was obliged to anchor. The East River is now so crouded, even in the stream, with victuallers and other veſsels, that it would have been difficult for those ships to have got out had the wind been perfectly fair. Every ship that is the least in the way should be ordered to haul alongside a wharf 'till the Men of war have got out. But their is no exertion at present in any part of the Naval Department.

2ed May — Foggy weather 'till 12 o'Clock, & Wind S. E. Clear afternoon.

The Combined Battalion paſsed this Morning to Long Island, and marched to Denyces.

The Robuste and Prudent attempted to get out of the E. River at 3 o'Clock this afternoon, but the wind failing them they were obliged to anchor again. The Prudent was very near going a Shore on the North point of Governor's Island.

3rd — Very fine weather. Wind N. Some thunder and lightning last night.

The Robuste and Prudent came out of the E. River this Morning; the latter anchored near the Admiral, and the former went directly down to Staten Island, and anchored with the rest of the fleet.

Came in a Ship from Cork in 9 weeks. Transports were at Cork when she left it, in readineſs to receive troops. The Convoy for them was also there.

4th May. Very fine weather. Wind N. in the Morning, and S. after 2 o'Clock.

There was a preſs for Seamen last night, & about 300 men were collected, and put on board the fleet.

The Royal Oak and Prudent went down to Staten Island early this morning.

The Richmond frigate went down this Morning at 7 o'Clock. She is going to Cape Fear River, and Lord Chewton, and Lt Col° Yorke of the 33rd Regiment, are going in her to Lord Cornwallis, who is at Wilmington. The wind being contrary she could get no farther than Gravesend bay this day.

Came in a brig in 16 days from St Kitts. No French fleet or troops arrived in the West Indies when she left it.

5th — Good weather. Fresh wind at S. all day.

Captain Affleck of the Bedford having hoisted a broad pendant this Morning, saluted the Admiral, which salute was returned by him.

The Roebuck and Medea have been cruising for some days to observe the Motions of the French fleet, and one of them is daily expected in with intelligence respecting it.

6th May — Fresh wind all day at S. S. E. Thick, disturbed atmosphere, and every appearance of bad weather. Thermometer 64° in the shade.

Intelligence respecting the French fleet is impatiently expected. Should they have sailed from Newport, it is probable they are gone for York in Virginia, where they mean to establish themselves; they will then join the troops they are supposed to have on board with the Rebel forces in that quarter; which by giving the people fresh spirits, will enable them to collect an army again, and perhaps act offensively against Lord Cornwallis, or our post at Portsmouth. As General Phillips is said to be on an Expedition with part of the troops under his Command, towards Baltimore, should the French arrive in the Chesapeak time enough to intercept him in his return to Portsmouth, it may prove of fatal consequence to that Corps.

Should the French be still at Rhode Island our fleet will certainly proceed and cruize off that port, to block them up, while a small Convoy is sent with the troops now embarked, who are either intended to replace those said to have moved from Portsmouth, or to join Lord Cornwallis at Wilmington in North Carolina.

If the French expect a reinforcement of Ships and troops from France, which they and the Rebels industriously give out, they will not think it prudent to risque the destruction of those they have at Rhode Island, by venturing out while our fleet is so much superior as it now is; but will remain on the defensive at Newport, and wait the arrival of that reinforcement, or some change of affairs. Many persons believe they do not expect any reinforcement, and that they will run for York River in Virginia, in which Province their force can be more effectually employed for the service of the Rebels, than at Rhode Island. If they did not sail before the late Southerly winds set in, they have not been able to get out since.

Information was received this Evening that a division of The French troops were on their march from Rhode Island, and were soon expected to take the posts in the Highlands, in place of those troops said to have been detached to the Southward.

7th May. Rain from 12 last night, which continued without any intermiſsion the whole of this day, attended with a very strong wind at E. S. E. Heavy rain towards night.

The Medea came in last night, with the Protector, a Rebel frigate of 26 Guns, taken a few days ago by her and the Roebuck.

8th — Rain most part of last night. Thick cloudy day. Wind S. W. Small rain and dirty weather till the afternoon, when it fell calm, and began to clear up.

The Protector came round into the East River.

The Richmond did not sail until this day for Cape Fear River.

Came in a ship from Lisbon, in 7 weeks.

Intelligence received this Morning from Philadelphia dated 2d May says, that The Hermione French frigate is there loading flour for the fleet at Rhode Island, and that she is to sail from thence, about this time, in company, with The Ariel, Trumball, Congreſs, Fair-American, and some other Rebel privateers for Newport.

This intelligence was sent expreſs this Morning to The Admiral.

9th May. Very fine day till 5 in the afternoon, Wind N. N. W. At 5 the wind shifted to the N. and blew fresh. Cold & cloudy, and like for rain towards night.

The fleet weighed at 9 this Morning from Staten Island, and went thro' the Narrows. It is expected they will get over the Bar with the afternoon's tide.

The Captains and Crews of two Rebel whale boats were taken this day on Long Island. They came from The Rariton on a plundering expedition.

Two men came in this day from above Albany. Supposed with intelligence from Ethan Allen.

'Tis said The Richmond took a Rebel Privateer off The Hook yesterday.

10th — Thick weather, and small rain great part of the day. Wind N. E.

The fleet got no further than Gravesend bay yesterday. The highest tides being toMorrow, tis supposed they will endeavor to go over the Bar, if the wind is favorable.

11th May. Very fine weather. Clear and pleasant. Wind N. N. E.

The fleet went down to Sandy Hook, but The London in going down by some mismanagement got on the West bank, where she stuck. This unfortunate accident may be attended with many ill consequences. As soon as The Commander in Chief heard of it, he ordered The Agents of transports to send down as many of the empty transports as they judged might be necessary to aſsist, in case it should be found proper to take out her guns and Stores. It is feared this accident may detain the fleet until the next spring tides.

The Rebel Privateers are numerous off the Hook, and several of our Frigates are lying at anchor within it.

Came in this Evening a ship from England which sailed the 12th of March, in company with the Grand fleet destined for the relief of Gibraltar. Captain Cochran of the Guards came in her. Reinforcements were embarked in Ireland for this Continent.

Came in also a ship from Lisbon in 53 days.

12th May. Mild weather, but some rain: Wind N. E. in the morning, and S. E. after 12 o'Clock.

The London was got off last night without any damage, and the fleet will not be delayed on her account. 'Tis hoped they will all get out toMorrow if the wind is fair.

Accounts from Philadelphia mention that there has been some riots there lately occasioned by the Continental paper currency, the circulation of which is now entirely at an end. Some of the Mob tarred a dog, and then stuck him full of Congreſs paper dollars; and in that condition turned him into the place in which The Congreſs were sitting.

It will be almost impoſsible for the leaders of the Rebels to induce the people to produce their hard money, and bring it into circulation instead of the paper, for as the Specie in the poſseſsion of each individual is the only thing he can depend on, he will not bring it forth but in the greatest extremity, and for his subsistence: if therefore the people continue firm in their refusal of the paper currency, the utmost confusion must ensue, and the operations of Congreſs be extremely embarraſsed.

The rupture with Holland will probably destroy all their expectations of a loan from the Dutch, who will require their money for their own defence.

The loſs of the Confederacy has been severely felt by Congreſs, and their troops, as all the clothing they expected from Europe was on board her. The Capture of Eustatia, from when whence the Rebels received constant supplies, must also distreſs them greatly.

13th May — Very fine day. Wind N. W.

All the fleet got over the bar this day except the Robuste.

By a letter published in the Rebel papers, from General Steuben, dated 10 miles beyond Petersburg in Virginia the 25th April, it appears, that General Phillips has been up James's River with a large Corps, and obliged him to retire. He acknowledges that the firing continued for two hours, and that he was obliged to take up a bridge to secure his retreat. He says his loſs is not very great.

From the above account there is reason to believe that General Phillips has been very succeſsful against Mr Steuben.

The Saratoga, a Continental Sloop of war of 16 Guns is taken by the Iris.

By information from Philadelphia it appears that The Hermione is ſtill in the Delaware, and is expected to sail very soon in Company with near 20 armed veſsels loaded with flour; some of them bound to The Havanna, and the reſt under her Convoy, for Newport, Rhode Island. The Capture of this fleet would be a matter of great consequence.

14th May — Fine day, and the warmeſt we have had this year. Wind S. W.

The Robuſte got over the bar this Morning and the fleet went to Sea.

The North River remarkably thick and Muddy all day, occasioned perhaps by the heavy rain that fell about 7 days ago, and which probably was much heavier up the Country.

There are no accounts of The French fleet having sailed from Rhode Island.

15th May. Very warm day. Wind W. N. W. Thermr 80°.

The Thynne Packet went down this Morning, bound for England.

An Ensign and 36 Rebels of The Rhode Island Continentals, brought in prisoners.

See an account of Colonel James Delancey's expedition to the Croton.

Brigr General Leland, Lt Governor Hamilton, Major Hay, Captain Brodie, Captain Baillie, and Mr Crowder, went home in The Thynne Packet.

16th — Warm during the middle of the day. Wind very variable. Thunder and lightning, and some Rain in the afternoon.

17th — Warm weather. Close and Sultry. Some thunder and lightning and a little rain, Wind chiefly, S. E.

Came in early this Morning The General Monk, 20 Guns, Captain Rogers, from Chesapeak, with an account of the operations and succeſs of the troops in Virginia.

The active and decisive spirit of Arnold has been very conspicuous during the late operations in Virginia. I am well convinced our British Generals would not have attempted what he has effected. He is well aſsiſted by Lt Colonel Simcoe, who is a sperited, active & able Officer. I almoſt blush for some of our British Generals on this occasion.

Lieut General Robertson is directed to prepare to go immediately to Virginia. Tis supposed he is going to take the Command of the troops in that Province, in the room of Major General Phillips who is very ill.

I was informed this Evening that The Commander in Chief would go soon to Virginia, and that I was to prepare to go with him.

Came in brig bound from Philadelphia to a port in France, with 103 Hogsgheads of tobacco.

18th May — Very warm 'till 4 o'Clock, when the wind came round from S. to S. E, when it grew cold, with a moist foggy air.

The Refugees at Fort Lee were attacked this morning by a party of Rebels, whom they beat off.

The Thynne Packet is detained at The hook, in order to carry home the accounts of the succeſses in Virginia, and The Commander in Chief's intentions in consequence thereof.

The loſs of the Rebels in the single article of Tobacco, during the late expedition in Virginia, amounts to about 8,000 Hogsheads, which at £50– each, is £300,000 Sterling. The loſs in Shipping Flour, Stores, barracks, tobacco, and other articles destroyed and taken on this occasion, is calculated at £1,000,000 000– Sterling. The produce of the tobacco only, if returned to them, would amount to that sum.

19th May. Very fine day. Wind N. W. in the morning, & S. after 12 o'Clock.

The Commander in Chief has altered his intention of going to Virginia. Lieutenant General Robertson will embark early in the Morning for that Province, in The Amphitrite.

New York. 20th May 1781 —

Advice was received this Morning from South Carolina, that on the 19th Apl Genl Greene, with about 1400 Continentals and a body of Militia, came before Camden, where he continued, (changing his positions) 'till the 25th, in the Morning of which, Ld Rawdon, with the greater part of his Garrison, (upwards of 800 men) marched out, & about 10 o'Clock attacked him in his Camp at Hobkirk's hill, with that conduct & spirit which claimed the Victory he gained, tho' long contested, & against superior numbers, especially of Cavalry; the Enemy's advantage in which, hindered the pursuit being continued further than

3 miles. To this decided line of conduct, which has produced the best effects, his Lordship was induced by knowing that Gen¹ Greene was in expectation of reinforcements, which in a day or two must arrive, and that he had detached to bring forward his supplies; an occasion which his Lordship's abilities and Zeal did not fail to embrace.

The Enemy's loſs on this occasion is estimated by L^d Rawdon at about 500 men; and his own appears from the returns, about 200; in which number is one Officer killed, and 11 Wounded but not dangerously.

The Charlestown is going out at the same time and will convoy The Thynne Packet 100 leagues off the Coast.

Tis reported that a French Admiral arrived lately at Boston, in a frigate, to take Command of the Fleet in this Country in the room of M. de Ternay. If this is true, it does not look like having a Reinforcement of Ships and troops for the aſsistance of the Rebels. They place all their hopes on the arrival of such reinforcement, and give out as certain that 10 sail of the line and a large body of troops, sailed from Brest the 22^d of March, for Rhode Island. I rather believe if any ships sailed at that time it was in order to join the Spanish fleet and oppose the relief of Gibraltar.

'Tis reported that Lord Cornwallis is moving from North Carolina, towards Petersburg in Virginia, and that Greene has marched with such troops as he could collect, into South Carolina, and advanced as far as Camden, from whence he has obliged Lord Rawdon, who commands in that district, to fall back. 'Tis also said that the Rebels have taken the post at Ninety Six.

If this is true it accounts for Gen^l Arnold's returning again so suddenly to Petersburg, and remaining there, after the object of his expedition was effected, and he had come so low down James's River as Hog-Island. Or poſsibly his sudden return to Petersburg was in consequence of The Commander in Chief's sending The Corps under Colonel De Voit to Virginia, and ordering him to take post at Petersburg, to cut off Greene's supplies, and prevent Fayettes junction with him.

There certainly is now in the Delaware a great number of veſsels laden with flour, part of them bound for the Havanna, and the rest for Newport. The Admiral will doubtleſs use every means to block up or capture this fleet.

20th May. Fine weather 'till 5 in the afternoon, when the wind Shifted from S. S. E. to S. W, and it became cloudy. A good deal of thunder, lightning and rain in the Evening. Wind N. N. E. at 7 o'Clock.

Names of Officers killed & Wounded, 25th April 1781

Lieut Jewell —	Volunteers of Ireland — Killed		
Lieut Laye —	Royal artillery	Capt Robinson — Loyl Amers	Wounded
Lieut McLeroth	63rd Regt	Capt Dawkins — So C. Regt	
Ensign Lloyd		Capt Harrison — So C. Rangrs	
Majr Campbell	Volrs of Ireland	Lt Wightman—Ks Amer Regt	
Lieut Moffat			
Lieut Black			
Ensign Breton			
		Lt. McGregor — New Yk Volrs — Prisr	

Came in this morning a veſsel from Charleſtown, with letters from Lieut Colonel Balfour, Commandant there, containing an account of Lord Rawdon's having beat General Greene at Camden the 25th of April.

See the account in the New York papers.

From the account of Greene's operations, we cannot help admiring his extraordinary exertions subsequent to the Battle of Guildford. He was totally defeated there the 15th March, with the loſs of above 1300 men, and all his Cannon by his own account, and retired in the utmoſt disorder 18 miles from the field; yet on the 19th April we find him, with another Army before Camden, having in that time collected it, given Lord Cornwallis the slip, and marched at leaſt   miles through an exhausted Country. Nothing but the great abilities of Lord Rawdon and the bravery of the handful of troops under his Command, could have prevented Mr Greene's obtaining a victory, and driving all our troops in South Carolina within the fortifications of Charleſtown.

Yet Greene appears to have been much to blame (knowing as he certainly muſt, that Lord Cornwallis's Army, being in the utmoſt want of every thing neceſsary for carrying on his operations, had gone to Wilmington on Cape Fear River) not to have waited for the reinforcements he expected, the arrival of which would probably have insured succeſs. Having as it was, a force much superior to Lord Rawdon's, he should have taken such measures as would have prevented his Lordship from receiving any Reinforcement; and from the misfortune attending General

Gates on the same ground, should have guarded particularly againſt a sudden attack. A few days would then have put L^{d} Rawdon entirely in his power.

Having seen on every occasion what wonders are done by The British troops, againſt very superior numbers of the Rebels, it is to be lamented, that of late we have never had it in our power to attack them when there was any kind of equality.

In 1776 — We had troops in Nova Scotia, New York, Jersey, & South Carolina; and in the latter end of it at Rhode Island.
In 1777 — At Nova Scotia, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Jersey & Pennsylvania.
In 1778 — At Nova Scotia, New England, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Jersey, & Pennsylvania
In 1779 — At Nova Scotia, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New York, Georgia, & South Carolina.
In 1780 — At Nova Scotia, New Hampshire, New York, Jersey, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, & Georgia
In 1781 — At Nova Scotia, New Hampshire, New York, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, & Georgia —
Besides those in E. & W. Florida, & Canada

It appears to be one capital error in the conduct of the war in this Country, that under the Idea of having numerous friends in every Province who would declare themselves and act with us, if we shewed ourselves in it, we have extended our operations throughout moſt of them; by which means we have not been in sufficient ſtrength in any one, and have found those to oppose us in all, who could not by any means have been brought to act againſt us in any particular Province which we might think proper to make the seat of the war. The Carolina's could not by any means have been induced to make such exertions as they have done, had Pennsylvania, or New England been attacked; and we have litterally sent small bodies of troops into almoſt every Province to call forth the utmoſt exertions and ſtrength of each againſt us.

Our affairs in Carolina are in a very critical situation, but there is a prospect of their soon wearing a better appearance, in consequence of the late succeſs againſt Greene. The defection of the people in North and South Carolina is almoſt general since the appearance of Greene in those Provinces: having taken the Oaths, and declared their abhorrence of the Rebel Government, and their readineſs to act in favor of the King's troops, they were supplied with arms which they now use againſt us. Such base conduct doubtleſs deserves the most severe Chastisement, and and would sufficiently justify our treating them in the most rigorous manner.

The Charlestown, and Amphitrite, went down this day; Lieut General Robertson went on board the latter at 1 o'Clock. He is going to take the Command in Virginia, and only Major Murray his Aid de Camp goes with him.

Two Rebel whale boats with 16 Rowers in each, came up thro' the Narrows last night, and at 2 o'Clock this morning, carried off four or five boats, and several men from Yellow hook. They also took a Pilot boat, which they ransomed, and suffered the men belonging to her to come away. These boats came down the Rariton from Brunswick. They are a great nuisance, and should if poſsible be taken or destroyed. It is a great reflection upon the Navy, that they should suffer the Enemy's boats to come into the harbour in this audacious manner, while so many ships lie idle in it.

As those boats were at Yellow hook within the narrows at 2 o'Clock this morning, it appears highly improbable that they could before daylight, which is now about half past 3, have returned to any part of the Jersey shore. There is therefore every reason to believe that they are now lying concealed on the South side of Staten Island, or in some of the small Creeks in the Marshes, between Gravesend bay, and Coney Island.

The Thynne Packet has not sailed yet; she is detained to carry home the account of Lord Rawdon's action in Carolina.

It is reported by the Rebels that the Spaniards have taken Pensacola.

21st May — Thick hazy weather in the Morning. Wind N. E. Rain after 4 o'Clock with thunder & Lightning. The Rain very heavy from 6 till 11 at night, and a very fresh wind at N. E. at 10 oClock.

In consequence of information received by the Commander in Chief, that the Rebels had a design against the post which the Refugees have taken at Fort Lee, on the Jersey side of the North River, orders were sent at 11 o'Clock this morning for all the Jagers to march from Jericho & Westbury with all their baggage to Jamaica. The 17th Dragoons and British Grenadiers on Long Island, and the two Battalions of New Jersey Volunteers on Staten Island, also received orders, to be ready to march on the shortest notice, with two days provisions. Major

Delancy was sent up to Fort Lee to examine the situation of the Refugees there, and to gain such information as he could of the intentions and force of the Rebels. Having returned and reported, that the post was in a very bad State of defence, only 200 Refugees there, and those without any order, and rather averse to fortifying themselves, The Commander in Chief determined they should not attempt to establish themselves there; in consequence of which, they were directed to withdraw from thence, and the further movement of the troops stopt. It was intended to have embarked the Cavalry toMorrow Morning at Brooklyn, and the Infantry at Redhook; also that the Troops from Staten Island should croſs from thence to Bergen-point. The troops from Long Island were to have moved up the North River toMorrow night, and those from Staten Island were to have marched up by way of Bergen, and the whole to have aſsembled at Fort Lee, so that had the Refugees remained there, and been attacked, the Rebels would in all probability paid dearly for their attempt to dislodge those unfortunate people.

22d May — Fine weather. Wind N. W.

The Jagers ordered to return from Jamaica to their former quarters.

Came in two ships from Jamaica, in 32 days. Accounts had been received at that Island before they sailed, that the Spaniards appeared off the Bar of Pensacola about the end of March, with 33 ships: but the particulars of their force, and Number of troops on board was not then known.

23rd May — Cold weather. Wind N. E.

The Speedy Packet arrived last night with the February mail. She has been to Charlestown, where she arrived the 17th April. She sailed from thence the 7th Instant.

Came in this day The Loyalist 20 Guns, Captain Ardesoif, from Cape Fear River, but last from The Chesapeak, which she left the 17th Instant. She has brought no public letters from either place. She was sent from Cape Fear with dispatches from Lord Cornwallis to the Officer Commanding at Portsmouth. Her boat was up Elisabeth River, where the Lieutenant was told that General Phillips was dead.

Lord Cornwallis has certainly left Wilmington, with an intention to march towards Portsmouth, or at least to penetrate into Virginia, and cooperate with the troops now in that Province.

The Commander in Chief having determined that the Refugees shall evacuate the poſt at Fort Lee, and eſtablish themselves on some part of Bergen Neck, Major Delancey, Deputy Adjutant General, and Major Robertson of the Engineers, with 20 Dragoons, and a Detachment of the 54th Regiment, were sent this morning to examine the ground there and fix on a proper place for them, which they have done, and they are to take poſt there immediately.

The 37th Regiment is to be removed from Richmond, Staten Island, where they are now ſtationed, and are to be replaced by the New Jersey Volunteers from the poſt at the Watering place, which is to be evacuated.

Brigadier General Skinner commands at present on Staten Island, in the room of General Paterson who is come up to New York. General P. — has for some time paſt taken his bottle pretty freely, so that at particular times he was very unfit for a Command of that kind.

It is intended to withdraw the poſt at Lloyd's neck, now occupied by some Refugees. If the Refugees eſtablish themselves in any number on Bergen neck, and render their poſt secure from any sudden attack, they will be able to supply this Garrison, and moſt of the poſts in its vicinity, with wood, at a moderate price, which will afford them a comfortable subsiſtence, & be of great service to Government.

24th May. Cold raw weather. Heavy rain after 4 o'Clock in the afternoon. Wind N. E.

Some of the boats taken a few nights ago by the Rebel whale boats, were as high up as Governor's Island when captured. A Plan is determined on for the deſtruction of these plundering gentry, who generally shelter themselves in Middletown Creek, Jersey. These fellows may do much mischief if not soon deſtroyed, as no Merchant ship, unleſs well manned and extremely watchful, is safe at anchor any where within the hook.

Major Delancey, Deputy Adjutant General, was this day appointed to act as Adjutant General, to the Army under The Command of Sir Henry Clinton.

Neither The Thynne Packet, The Charlestown, nor Amphitrite are yet sailed from the Hook.

I find The Commander in Chief has been a good deal displeased of late by the conduct of Lieut Colonel Balfour. He says he has treated him with very little respect or attention;

that he has taken upon him to send home from Charlestown a number of empty transports, that should have been sent here, and were in perfect order for service; that he has sent Packets home from thence without ordering them to come first to this port, & that he has taken every opportunity of corresponding directly with The Secretary of State, without transmitting copies of his letters to Headquarters. But he seems particularly offended at his having opened the New York Mail at Charlestown, and having detained the Packet there so long. The Packets have always been under the immediate direction of The Commander in Chief, while on this side the Atlantic.

I have seen the orders given by the Post Master General to the Captain of The Speedy Packets, which were, to proceed immediately on the receipt of them to Madeira, where he was to remain only 24 hours, from thence to make the best of his way to Charlestown, and dropping there the Mail for that place, to proceed immediately to New York. I heard Captain Spargo say, that if he had not been ordered to Charlestown he could have been here 7 weeks ago; and that if Lieut Colonel Balfour had not detained him he could have been here near 3 weeks sooner.

Prices of meat in the Market New York, 25th May 1781

Beef	from 2s/ 4d	to 3s/	pr lb Currency
Mutton	2 / 6	3 /	
Veal	1 /10	2 /9	
Lamb	14/	24s/	pr Quarter
Calveshead, pluck, & feet	12s/ to 16s/		
Lambs head, &c.	8s/		
Bullocks heart	6s/		
Tongue	6s/ to 8s/		
Tripe	1s/6d pr lb		
Fowls	8s/ each		

Vegetables

A Small Sallat	1s/	
Radishes	/4d	pr bunch of 8 or 10
Asparagus	3s/ to 4s/	pr bunch of 30
Spinage	1s/6	pr Half peck
Sprouts	1/6	D°

25th May. Very heavy rain all last night. Strong wind about 11 last night, and great thunder and lightning about 1 this morning. Wind N. E. Thermometer 48° last night, & 54°

this Morning. Thick weather all day. Raw and disagreeable. Wind N. E.

There has been no account from the fleet since it sailed from hence. 'Tis supposed that after seeing the transports with the troops for the Chesapeak, safe past the Delaware, the Admiral returned to cruize off Rhode-Island.

The Rebels have been very succeſsful of late in getting a number of veſsels into the Delaware. No leſs than 27 have arrived in that river within a Month, most of them from the Havanna, by whom they have received a large supply of hard cash, which contributes greatly to keep up their spirits and hopes at this critical period, when the credit and currency of the paper money is nearly at an end. They have also brought in a number of prizes lately, particularly into New London, and other Eastern ports.

If the Delaware had been blocked up from the time of the action off the Chesapeak until now, which might have been done effectually, by a 50, or 44 Gun ship, 2 frigates, and 2 Sloops, the distreſs it would have occasioned to the Merchants of Philadelphia in particular, and to the Rebels in general, would have been severely felt, and have been productive of the best effects.

The Ships employed on that service would have been enriched by prize Money, which now seems to be a principal inducement in the Navy to do any thing.

The Rebels have a wonderful talent at palliating every loſs they sustain. Having lost above 8,000 hogsheads of tobacco during the late Expedition in Virginia, they console themselves with saying that no ill effects will attend the destruction of that quantity, as what is still remaining in the Country will bring a price in proportion. In this manner have the leaders of the people endeavored to gloſs over every defeat and loſs they have suffered during the Rebellion.

If they had said that most of the tobacco destroyed was French property, and that they have actually already received value for it, they would perhaps have said nothing more than the truth.

26th May — Thick weather this Morning. Fair from 10 till 6, when it came in thick and wet again. Wind S. E.

26th — Great quantities of fish brought to market this Morning, but it has not lowered the price of meat.

The kinds most plenty are,

Mackarel	from	/8d to 2s/	each — Currency	
Herrings		1s/	pr dozen	
Wake fish		1s/	pr Dozen	
Blue fish		1/9	pr lb	very good fish
Black fish		2s/	pr lb	
Sea Baſs		/6d to 2s/	each	
Sheepshead		1/6, to 3/6	each — very good fish	
Sturgeon of 4 lb		/6d — They are not esteemed here.		

27th — Foggy weather, which lasted 'till 10 oClock, when it cleared up. Wind S. S. E. Very fine day.

Signals for a Fleet of Men of war. Admiral Arbuthnot's fleet came to anchor without Sandy hook this afternoon.

The Loyalist went down to the hook. Came in a Sloop from St Eustatia; she brings information of the arrival of a French Fleet from Europe at Martinique, and that there had been an Action between that fleet, and the British under the Command of Sir Samuel Hood, off that Island, which proved to the disadvantage of the latter.

28th May — Very fine weather. Wind S.

The Savage Sloop of War came in last night from Portsmouth. Lieut Noble, Aid-de Camp to Major General Phillips came in her. He left Petersburg the 22d. Major General Phillips died the 16th Instant, after five days illness of a fever.

The Army was at Petersburg, and that under the Command of Lord Cornwallis was advanced as far as Halifax. The van of his Army under the Command of Lieutenant Col° Tarleton, and the Van of Arnold's under Lieut Colonel Simcoe, had joined at the Forks of The Nottaway. Arnold had gone off to meet Lord Cornwallis, and a junction of the two Armies was daily expected.

The Swallow, dispatch boat, came in this day from Portsmouth, which she left on the 24th May. She brought a letter from Lord Cornwallis to The Commander in Chief dated from Petersburg the 20th, where he had arrived with the Army under his Command from North Carolina, and had taken the Command of all the Troops in Virginia. His Lordships Army is in great want of neceſsaries of every kind.

We are now very anxious to know what Lord Cornwallis will undertake after his junction with the troops in Virginia. He has now a fine Corps of very near 7000 fighting men under his

Command, which is superior to any thing the Rebels can bring againſt him, but as we are as yet very uncertain of a permanent superiority at Sea, I conceive he will undertake nothing of consequence until our superiority is determined.

If the 17th Dragoons were sent to Chesapeak, and His Lordship was to croſs the bay with a large Corps and make a move towards Philadelphia, it might, if seconded by a movement of a Corps from hence into the Delaware, or even the appearance of it, be attended with the beſt consequences, and would undoubtedly ſtrike a terror into all that part of the Country.

I think it very improbable that Lord Cornwallis will return with an Army into the Carolinas, or attempt to March after Greene; he would in that case have numerous difficulties to encounter, and his return into those Provinces at this Season of the year, when operations in the field are so deſtructive to troops, would hardly be attended with succeſs. The Carolinas muſt now be left to be defended by the troops already there; indeed the Country they have to defend is but a small part of South Carolina only, for the only part we hold of North Carolina is in the Neighbourhood of Wilmington. By the laſt accounts, Greene was at Rugeley's, 10 miles from Camden, and there is too much reason to fear, when he finds Lord Cornwallis is advanced into Virginia, that he will spirit up the people of South Carolina, to join him, and as they are very Rebellious, and pay little regard to an Oath, he will probably succeed to his wishes, and oblige Lord Rawdon to retire to Charleſtown. There is therefore great reason to apprehend the loſs of every part of those Provinces, except Charleſtown, and nothing but the moſt Complete succeſs in this quarter can ever recover them.

Some persons imagine that by Lord Cornwallis's movement to Petersburg, Greene will find it difficult to subsiſt his troops in South Carolina; but as that Province and North Carolina, are in a manner entirely open to him, I cannot believe he will find any inconvenience in supplying such troops as he has with him.

Should Lord Cornwallis determine upon an attempt upon Philadelphia, and reach that City, I think it would be good policy to deſtroy it, and indeed every other place of consequence in his power; for I am convinced nothing but the moſt rigorous treatment will now bring the Rebels to any terms; as the moſt lenient measures have had no effect, the severeſt treatment would now become juſtifiable; and should be immediately adopted, for should a further reinforcement of Ships and troops join those of The French already in this Country, our affairs will wear the moſt unfavorable aspect.

The number of real active friends we have in this Country, are comparatively small, to those who find it their present intereſt to be our Enemies.

A favorable turn of affairs in Europe, in consequence of the attempt to relieve Gibraltar, is almoſt the only thing that can put us on a footing with our numerous Enemies, and it is to be hoped that our Navy, which has done nothing this war againſt the Enemies fleets, may on that occasion ſtrike a decisive ſtroke againſt them.

In consequence of Lord Cornwallis's letter the departure of Lieut General Robertson for Virginia is countermanded, and he is expected this night from the hook.

Came in a Schooner from New Providence with Limes, Pine-Apples, and some Turtle.

29th May — Very fine day & Warm. Wind S.

Came in a veſsel from Jamaica; she brings an account that The Spaniards under Don Galvez, had made an attack upon Pensacola, but had been repulsed with loſs, and Galvez wounded. They had not raised the siege, but had sent to The Havanna for supplies, and a reinforcement.

The Loyaliſt came up from the Hook. The Rainbow, & Loyaliſt fired 21 Guns each, at 1 this day. The Fleet, nor the Garrison, did not fire.

The fleet under Admiral Arbuthnot is at anchor 5 leagues from Sandy hook. He has been cruizing off Block Island, and was at an anchor there before the late blowing weather, which obliged him to put to Sea. 'Tis said The Admiral intends going to sea tomorrow. Several of the Cruizers are out in the Latitude of Nantucket Shoals, looking out for a French fleet, which 'tis said are expected at Rhode Island from France, and muſt come to the Southward of them.

If the Admiral does not intercept any reinforcements or supplies deſtined for the French at Rhode Island, and without which they cannot now act offensively againſt us, he will deservedly suffer the severeſt censure.

30th May. Fine weather. Wind N. E.

The Rainbow went down to Sandy Hook this Morning.

There are some accounts received from Virginia, that mention Lord Cornwallis's having immediately after his junction with the troops at Petersburg, marched towards Richmond, in pursuit of Fayette.

31st May — Fine weather 'till 4 in the afternoon, when the wind shifted from S. to S. E. Cloudy, with a cool, damp air from that time.

The fleet sailed this Morning from The Hook.

Came up the Roebuck, on board of which Commodore Affleck has hoiſted his broad pendant. The Commodore is to remain here to execute the business of the Port.

Came in a Ship from Jamaica. Off the hook she was attacked by a Rebel Privateer of 10 Guns and 35 men from New London, which she took by concealing her guns and force until the Privateer came so near that she could not make her escape; She brought the Privateer in with her.

Several of the transports and Victuallers that are going to England, came out of the E. River this Morning, and anchored in the North River.

1st June. Fine Morning. Wind N. E. Cloudy and rather cold, with an Eaſterly wind, in the afternoon.

Several more of the Victuallers bound for Europe came round into the N. River.

The General Monk, came out of the Eaſt River this afternoon.

Information received thro' the Rebels, that the March Packet from England for this place, has been taken, and carried into L'Orient.

Our lateſt accounts from England at this time, are by means of a veſsel from Jamaica.

2d — Cloudy, but pleasant weather. Wind N.

The Commander in Chief has received information that The French troops are arrived at Crompond, which is within 30 miles of Kingsbridge.

A Man came in this afternoon from Block Island, and says, he was informed by a person who left Rhode Island on Thursday the 31st May, that moſt of The French troops had marched from Newport to the Weſtward: and that a veſsel had arrived there which saw above 20 sail of large ships off Nantucket shoals, supposed to be French.

If this Movement of the French troops is true, which I very much doubt, it is made with an intention to enable Washington to detach troops to the Southward, to oppose Lord Cornwallis. Without the aſsistance of a powerful Fleet, they could not hope, even with every poſsible exertion of the Rebels, to succeed in any attempt on this place.

It is hoped that Admiral Arbuthnot will not suffer any veſsels to get into Rhode Island.

3rd June. Very fine weather. Wind N. W. in the morning, and S. after 3 o'Clock.

Further accounts have been received this day that the French troops had left Rhode Island, and that they arrived at Crompond the 31st May.

The Confederate (late the Rebel Frigate Confederacy) came round this day from the East, into the North River. She is to Convoy the Fleet of Victuallers and transports going to Europe. Most of them are now in the North River, and 'tis expected they will sail in the course of a week.

4th June. Fine weather, and not too warm. Wind S.

This being the Anniversary of The King's birthday, 21 Guns were fired from the lower Batteries at 12 oClock, and at 1, all the Ships of War in the harbour, and the transports, and other veſsels in the North River, fired.

In the Evening all the troops in Garrison, with the Volunteer and Militia Companies of this City, were drawn out in Great George Street, or the Broadway, to fire a Feu de Joye. The British were on the Right, the Volunteer & Militia Companies in the Center, and the Germans on the left. The whole in one line, which Extended from White Conduit house on the Right, to Fort George on the left. The fire commenced with 7 pieces of Cannon from the lower Battery, and was followed by the troops beginning on the right and running to the left, then 7 pieces of Cannon as before, followed by the troops from the left to the Right; then 7 other pieces of Cannon, followed by the troops from the Right to the Left. The whole ended by three Huzza's. The whole was conducted with regularity, and had a good effect. The Garrison of Paulus hook, fired at the same time.

5th June. Very fine weather. Wind S. S. E.

Ensign John Moody, came in early this morning with a Rebel Mail which he intercepted a few days ago, near Suſsex Court house, going from Washington's quarters to Congreſs. The information obtained by The Commander in Chief from the despatches and letters found in this Mail, is of the utmost consequence, as they contain the particulars of the conference held the 17th of May at Weathersfield in Connecticut, between Washington and Rochambeau, and the whole plan of their operations for the ensuing Campaign.

The Capture of this Mail is extremely consequential, and gives the Commander in Chief the most perfect knowledge of the designs of the Enemy.

Ensign Moody received a reward of 200 Guineas for this Service.

General Knyphausen, and Lieut Genl Robertson, met the Commander in Chief this afternoon, to examine the papers taken.

The French troops had not yet moved from Rhode Island, so that the information that they were arrived at Crompond is totally void of foundation. The persons who gave it, were certainly sent in by The Rebels to give that false intelligence in order to effect some particular purpose.

There are accounts received, by different persons who have lately arrived from Philadelphia, the General Wayne having endeavored to persuade the Soldiers of the Pennsylvania line (consisting of about 600 men, cantoned at York, Reading & Carlisle in that Province) to march from thence under his Command to the Southward, a Serjeant and some men deputed by the whole, turned out, and in the name of their Comrades demanded all arrears of pay, clothing, &c, previous to their moving; and that Wayne, provoked at their insolence and Mutiny, ordered some Soldiers he had with him, to fire on them, by which the Serjeant and some men were killed. Wayne has not been able to carry his point, and has been obliged to return to Philadelphia. The Rebel papers mention that six men of the Pennsylvania line were condemned for Mutiny, and that four of them had been executed.

6th June. Rain from 8 this Morning 'till 11. Cloudy all day; and some showers after 11. Wind E.

Came in a prize ship, taken by one of the Cruizers, laden with Flour from Philadelphia.

It appears certain by the intercepted letters, that The Rebels and French intend making an attack on this place.

About 300 men belonging to the Corps in Virginia, under orders of embarkation, are countermanded. The Cavalry in Virginia are to be brought from thence immediately.

The Savage Sloop of War sailed this afternoon with letters for The Admiral from The Commander in Chief, supposed giving him information of the Enemy's intentions. It is hoped, from The knowledge The Commanders by Sea and Land now have of the designs of the Enemy, we may be able in the course of this month to give them a severe blow.

One of Washington's letters to Fayette gives him information, that General Robertson is going to Virginia to take the Command there: and in describing his Character he says, he is a man of great knowledge of the world and of mankind, but that he need not be at all apprehensive of his Military abilities. A juſt description, for tho' a man of shrewd sense, he is certainly a very indifferent General. He wants not only the health requisite for a General commanding a Corps, but firmneſs and decision.

The French have not yet moved from Rhode-Island, but they have embarked all their heavy Cannon there, and certainly intend leaving it soon.

The Commander in Chief intends soon to withdraw the poſt we now have at Lloyd's-Neck.

The Hermione French frigate has got safe into Newport with some veſsels under her Convoy laden with flour for the use of the French, of which they were in great want. It is really unpardonable in The Admiral to suffer the Enemy's ships to go in and out of Rhode Island when they please. In short his whole conduct of late has been a series of blunders and Neglects not to say worse.

7th June. Very heavy rain laſt night. Clear fine day after 10 o'Clock. Wind N. N. E.

Came in The Garland, 24 Guns Captain from The Weſt Indies, having under her Convoy an Ordnance transport, one of the Aſsurance's fleet which was seperated from her on the paſsage from Ireland, and obliged to bear away for the Weſt Indies, from whence Sir George Rodney sent her under care of

The Garland. The Garland got aground on the West bank coming up.

8th June. Some rain last night. Wind N. E. Cloudy cool day with small rain great part of the Morning. Wind E. The weather was so raw and cold this day, that many persons had fires lighted in their parlours.

An Officer and 20 Rebels were brought in prisoners this morning. They were taken the   Inst by Col° Delancey's Refugees near Horseneck.

Sailed the Mayflower, an expreſs veſsel for Chesapeak. Lieut Nairne 71st Regt, with 8 men of the 43rd went in her.

9th — Clear fine weather. Wind N. W. in the Morning, and S. S. W, the latter part of the day.

Signals at 10 this Morning for a fleet of Ships, with upwards of 5 Ships of war.

Suppositions & Conjectures respecting the fleet seen

They are the Charon, Thames, and the Rebel frigates, taken lately in James's river, with the transports & prizes, from the Chesapeak.
The abovementioned veſsels, and perhaps the Warwick and some ships from England.
Part of Adl Arbuthnot's fleet, with the Hermione and the Rebel frigates and their Convoy from the Delaware to Rhode Island.
Part of Adl Arbuthnot's fleet, with the French transports said to be expected from France at Newport.
A French fleet from Europe, to take poſseſsion of the entrance of this harbour, previous to New York's being invested by land.
With some others, still more improbable than the last.

Various conjectures and opinions respecting them, but no certain information at 9 at night.

The fleet consists of 6 ships of war, and about 27 other veſsels.

The Trimmer Privateer Schooner, of 20 Guns and 50 men, was overset yesterday by a squall of wind in coming into Sandy hook; only 18 men saved.

The French troops, consisting of about 3500 men, have not yet left Rhode-Island, but the latest intelligence from thence is, that Magazines for them are to be formed at Westbury, and other towns in that part of Connecticut. They are to march by way of Lebanon, Newtown, Hartford, &c, to Crompond. The Rebel park of Artillery is removed to Litchfield. It consists of 18 pieces of brass Ordnance, some of which are 18 pounders.

If the French and Rebels intend making an attack on, or forming the Siege of, this town, Washington will be able to draw a greater force together from the people of the Country, for that purpose, than he could for any other enterprize. The hopes of plunder, which will certainly be promised them, if a Siege is undertaken, will induce numbers to turn out, who could not be brought together on any other occasion.

The Siege of this place without a certainty of a permanent superiority by Sea, and a very numerous Army, is an undertaking of the utmost difficulty and importance, and might expose the forces employed in it, to a disgraceful defeat. While we continue superior at Sea we can have no well founded apprehensions, but should rather wish the Enemy to make the attempt.

Ten sail of the line however, from France, with every thing neceſsary for a Siege, and a large supply of provisions for the besieging Army, would render our situation at this time, rather disagreeable and embarraſsing. But as the chief aim of The French seems to be to conquer our Islands in the West Indies, I think we need be under no apprehension of seeing any part of their Naval force in this quarter until the hurricane Months, when they will probably leave the East Indies, and join the Rebels in operating on the American coast. Even then they will be followed by such part of the British fleet as can be spared from the defence of our Islands. Should our fleet in the West Indies be superior to that of The French, at the end of the Season for operating in that part of the world, the French will not venture to appear on this Coast.

The intercepting the Convoy expected by The French at Rhode-Island, is now a matter of great importance.

By some late accounts from The West Indies, we are informed, that the French have landed a large body of troops on St Lucia, and that their fleet in the Windward Islands, exceeds 24 sail of the line.

10th June. Very fine day, and not too warm. Wind W.

Came in the fleet seen off yesterday. It proves to be from Chesapeak, under Convoy of The Charon and Thames, which are the only ships of war with them. The rest are transports, traders, and some prizes.

The Loyal American Regiment and Arnold's Corps are come in this fleet from Portsmouth. They sailed the 6th Inst.

Lord Cornwallis by the last accounts from him, had paſsed James's River, and marched in pursuit of Fayette and the Corps under his Command, whom it was hoped he would come up with, and, of course, beat.

The troops at Portsmouth are The Regiment Prince Hereditaire, & the Anspachers. The 17th Regiment is at the Great Bridge. All the rest are with Lord Cornwallis in great health and spirits. General Leslie commands at Portsmouth. Arnold is come here: The love of money, his ruling paſsion, has been very conspicuous in Virginia.

The Charon chaced to Sea yesterday afternoon, and is not yet come in.

The Confederate 42 Guns, Captain Cummins, & Halifax, 20 Guns, Captain Bowers, with all the veſsels going under their convoy to Europe, went down this day. The Thames, 32 Guns, Captain Howe, is also appointed to go with this fleet, which consists of about 70 Sail.

VII

NEW YORK

VII

NEW YORK

11th June. Very fine day. Wind S.

The Charon came in this afternoon and anchored in the North River. She is to return immediately to Portsmouth, and will, with the General Monk, and Loyaliſt, convoy the veſsels going there loaded with Clothing, Stores, &c, for the troops in Virginia. The two laſt veſsels were not thought of sufficient force to protect those veſsels, the Rebels having ſtout Privateers at Sea.

12th — Warm day. Wind S.

The fleets for Europe, and the Chesapeak went down to Sandy hook this day.

Orders given for part of the troops in this diſtrict to encamp the 14th Inst.

The Loyal American Regiment, and Arnold's Corps, disembarked this morning at Brooklyn, and marched to Flushing, where they are to be quartered.

13th June. Close warm Morning. Hot day. Wind S.

Admiral Arbuthnot's fleet anchored off Sandy hook laſt Evening.

Came in The Orpheus, 32 Guns, Capt Colpoys.

Came in a Cartel veſsel with British Seamen; among the men were 14 British Soldiers who paſsed as Seamen until their arrival here, when they declared what Regiments they belonged to. Had it been known they were Soldiers the Rebels would not have exchanged them.

There does not at present remain above 200 men of the British Convention Regiments Prisoners in Virginia; all the reſt have made their escape, deserted, died, or dispersed themselves in the Country.

The Hermione, and Aeriel, with some veſsels under their convoy, all loaded with bread and flour from Philadelphia for the use of the French Fleet at Rhode Island, arrived there safe about 10 days ago. The Hermione had 1300 barrels, and the

Ariel 1100 barrels of flour on board, besides biscuit. The safe arrival of those veſsels is a matter of the utmoſt consequence to the French.

14th June. Very fine day, but warm. Wind S, which blew fresh during the middle of the day. A heavy thunder shower at the North end of this Island, but no rain on this side of the 3 mile ſtone.

Came in The General Washington, a Rebel privateer of 22 Guns, and 150 men, from Rhode Island, taken lately by The Aſsurance.

Several movements of the troops within this diſtrict this Morning, to their respective encampments and quarters.

The fleet for Europe sailed early this Morning under Convoy of The Confederate, Thames, and Halifax. There are three Old Eaſt India ships in the fleet, mounting 20 Guns each. The whole fleet amounts to above 70 sail.

The Sandwich Packet sailed for England this Morning.

'Tis reported that on the 1st or 2d of June Admiral Arbuthnots fleet saw the Hermione and her Convoy at Sea, that the Admiral made a Signal for The America to chace, who was gain-

Diſtribution of the Troops. New York diſtrict. 14th June

22d Regt 37th Landgrave	New York	New York Island
4 Battalions Heſsian Grenadiers	Bowery	
42d	Mortiers house	
38th	Morris's house	
57th Losberg Donop	Kingsbridge	
54th	Paulus hook	
17th Dragoons Jagers	Jericho, &c —	Long Island
3rd Battn Delanceys King's American Dragoons	Jamaica	
Loyal American Regt American Legion	Flushing	
2 Battalions British Grenadiers	Bedford	
Brunswickers, & Recruits	Brooklyn	
Combined Battalion	Denyces	
Bunau 4th Battalion of Skinner's	Flagſtaff	Staten Island
1st Do Do	Richmond	

ing on the Enemy, and would in all probability have taken some of them, when she was recalled by Signal from the Admiral and brought back to the fleet.

15th June. Heavy rain from day break till 10 this Morning. Wind N. E. Several heavy showers during the day. Wind N. after 12 oClock. Very fine afternoon.

The Charon went down this afternoon. Lieut Colonel McPherson, 71st Regiment, went on board The Loyaliſt this day. He is going in her to Chesapeak, and is charged with The Commander in Chief's dispatches for Lord Cornwallis, and with all the letters for the troops in Virginia.

By some Rebel papers lately received it appears that The French convoy expected from France, has arrived at Boſton. The troops on board amount only to 680 men and are the Recruits for the French Regiments at Rhode Island. The same papers say that Gibraltar had been relieved without opposition.

A Dispatch boat was sent off this night to Chesapeak, with some information juſt received respecting the movements of the French. The Commander in Chief is confident that the Enemy intend to besiege this place.

16th June. Pleasant weather, and not hot. Wind N.

Came in a flag of truce veſsel from Rhode-Island, with Captain Gayton of the Romulus, and several Officers, and other persons taken by The French fleet during the time they were out in March laſt. Some Inhabitants of Rhode Island also came in her.

The Rebel papers say that a fleet from Europe under the Convoy of the Warwick and other ships, having on board near 4000 troops, with provisions, ſtores, &c, is arrived at Charleſtown, South Carolina. The Rebels have taken a Brig that sailed with the abovemention'd fleet the 27th March from Cork, the Maſter of which gives the same account, as to the number of troops on board.

17th June. Fine weather. Wind S. Foggy at Sea.

The Roebuck went down to The fleet, which remains at anchor about 5 miles off Sandy hook. The Royal-Oak is gone to Halifax, to repair the damages she received when ashore on Governor's-Island.

'Tis said The Hermione has again sailed from Rhode-Island for Philadelphia. This ship is now commonly ſtiled the Philadelphia Packet.

The Fleet with Adl Arbuthnot now conſiſts of,

The London	90
Robuſte	74
Prudent	74
America	64
Europe	64
Bedford	74
Adamant	50
Roebuck	50
Chatham	50
Charon	44

There is no doubt but the America during the late cruize, chaced three sail, supposed to be The Hermione, Ariel, and another of that fleet, & that she gained upon them, when the Admiral made the signal to recall her, which she answered by giving him to underſtand she was coming up with them: Notwithſtanding which The Admiral repeated the Signal to recall her. There is no doubt among the Officers of the fleet, but the ships chaced would have been taken in a short time, had The Admiral suffered The America to continue the Chace. He is much blamed for this affair. Indeed the whole of his conduct for some time paſt is now very freely censured by all people.

18th June. Thick fog at Sea all day. Close sultry weather, and no sunshine. Wind. S. S. E.

The Commander in Chief went over to Paulus hook early this Morning, from whence he went to visit the Refugee poſt at Bergen point. He afterwards went as far up on the Jersey shore as the three Pigeons, and returned at 3 oClock by way of Paulushook. He was attended by a Captain and 40 of the 17th Dragoons, and 370 men with a proportion of Officers of the 54th Regiment. He went entirely to view the ground in that Neighbourhood, that in case the Enemy take poſt there with a Corps on inveſting this place, he may be able to take advantage of any false movement they may make.

He has received some particular and authentic information very lately respecting the intentions of The Enemy, from which he is convinced their plan is to inveſt New York. They are induced to undertake this operation, by our apparent weakneſs here from the several detachments that have been made to the Southward. Every argument is using by Washington to induce the States Northward of the Delaware to contribute their quotas of Men, Money, Stores, provisions, Carriages, horses, &c, &c, to enable him, with the Aſsiſtance of the French, to carry this enterprize into immediate execution; but their resourses are so much exhauſted, and there is so little unanimity among the people, that he is in great doubt of their complying with his demands.

The Rebel Garrison at Weſt point has for some time paſt been in the utmoſt diſtreſs for provisions. Having been at laſt reduced to a quarter of their usual allowance, they were relieved lately by a small temporary supply; but the discontent of the troops was so great, that their Generals were apprehensive if we were informed of their situation, and made an attempt on the place, it would be carried. The Rebel troops have in general 18 months pay due to them, and they are very ill clothed. Under these diſtreſses it is truly aſtonishing that they keep together at all.

Washington's whole number, for whom he very lately drew provisions, amounted only to 8000, including followers.

The French troops certainly marched from Rhode-Island about Six days ago, and are now on their March thro' Connecticut for Crompond, where they are to encamp.

General Wayne marched lately to the Southward with about 600 men of the Pennsylvania line.

The Commander in Chief has some very good intelligence of late respecting the movements of the Enemy, and thier intentions.

If Lord Cornwallis can beat Mr. Fayette in the course of this Month, or before Wayne joins him, there will be little to apprehend from the Enemy in Virginia.

Troops are certainly to come here soon from Virginia. The Light Infantry, Queen's Rangers, 43rd, 76th, The 2 Battalions of Anspach, and the Cavalry, are I think, those which have been required from Lord Cornwallis; and indeed, if the Enemy really intend forming the Siege of this place, they will be highly neceſsary.

Some detachments belonging to some of the Corps in Virginia embarked this day. 'Tis probable the Admiral will convoy the ships going to the Chesapeak, and return with the troops that are to come from thence.

The laſt accounts respecting the situation of affairs in South Carolina mention that Greene has taken some of our poſts in that Province, and that Lord Rawdon had retired to Monk's-Corner.

Should the troops expected from Europe now arrive at this place, we shall be sufficient strong at all our posts.

'Tis very astonishing that no veſsels arrive from England. The latest official account from thence is dated 7th of February.

The Rebels say that a veſsel is arrived at Wilmington in the Delaware, after a short paſsage from Cadiz, and that she brings an account of the relief of Gibraltar by The British Fleet. The Master says the Spanish fleet retired into Cadiz without fighting, but the Mate says there was an action, in which The Spaniards lost 12 sail of the line: 8 taken and 4 sunk. We are extremely anxious for a confirmation of the latter's account, tho' we think the former's most likely to be true.

19th June. Clear warm weather. Strong wind at N, and N. W. 'till 5 in the Evening.

The Commander in Chief seems determined to make a stroke at the first Corps of French or Rebel troops that comes within his reach in this Neighbourhood, and affords him an opportunity of doing it with any prospect of succeſs.

An Expedition is preparing to go off toMorrow, for the purpose of carrying off a quantity of Cattle, Sheep, &c, from that part of Jersey between Middletown and Shrewsbury, but particularly from a place called Pleasant Valley, where all the Cattle belonging to the Neighbouring country are pastured at this Season.

The troops under orders for this Expedition are,

42d Regiment	500 Men
54th	200
Loyal Americans	150
4th Battn New Jers: Volrs	150
Jagars	100
Cavalry	18
Total	1118, Men, with 2, 3 pounders

The whole under the Command of Brigadier General Skinner.

The troops destined for this service have received their orders, and are to be put in Motion at 6 o'Clock, tomorrow Morning; and in order to prevent any alarm by embarking troops without any apparent reason, the Signal for the Enemy having landed on Staten Island, is to be made at that hour on Staten Island, on which the troops are to embark at Paulus-hook, New York, and Denyces, and proceed immediately to Coles-ferry, where they are to remain until the Evening, and then push for Middletown point, where the landing is to be made. In order to facilitate this movement, the Jagers marched this day from Jamaica, and The Loyal Americans from Flushing, to Denyces.

All the Cattle that can be collected are to be driven down towards Sandy hook, where veſsels will be ready to receive them on board.

Five transports having on board Detachments and baggage belonging to some of the Corps in Virginia, went down to Sandy hook to join the fleet going to Chesapeak.

Came in a brig from Cork in 7 weeks. She fell in with the fleet which sailed from hence the 12th 100 miles from the land, all well. The Ships of War took from the Captain, all the Newspapers he had. He only remembers that they mentioned, that there had been a very general revolt in Corsica, that there had been an insurrection at Amsterdam, during which several persons were killed, and the houses of some of the favorers of The Rebels pulled down: that an account of an Action at Sea, in consequence of our attempt to relieve Gibraltar was daily expected, and, that the fleet with the Reinforcements for this Country, had sailed from Cork the 27th March.

20th June. Very fine weather. Fresh wind at N. N. W. moſt of the day.

1000 ton of Shipping for the reception of troops, were ordered laſt night, to be added to those going to Virginia. Three large ships went down this morning accordingly.

The Signal agreed upon was made upon Staten Island at 6 o'Clock this Morning, but by our not looking at the proper place for it, it was not observed until 7, when the 54th embarked and put off from Paulus hook. Orders were immediately sent to the 42d, to move, but they did not embark till near 10. The other troops went off as ordered, and the whole aſsembled at Coles' ferry.

The troops took only two days provisions, and their blankets with them. Two days provisions more, and a quantity of spare ammunition was put on board a Sloop which attended them.

'Tis reported that the troops from Europe are arrived in the Chesapeak.

Many Rebel deserters have come in of late to our posts, but from the frequency of such events I have not noticed them.

Several papers reflecting on the conduct of Admiral Arbuthnot, were found pasted up at Rivington's Corner this morning.

21st June. Warm day. Wind S.

The Commander in Chief went to Sandy-hook this Morning, and returned at 9 at Night. He did not go on shore.

The British fleet continues at anchor off the Hook.

The French troops are on their march towards Crompond.

I am of opinion that The Commander in Chief went to Sandy hook this Morning in order to see how Brigadier General Skinner conducted himself, and to be in the way in case of accidents. The Brigadier is a very good man, and a loyal Subject, but has no Idea of moving even so small a body of troops, and is therefore a very unfit person to be entrusted with the Command of a thousand men, where there was any chance of any material opposition. This Expedition he says is a plan of his own, but I know that Col° Simcoe, planned it, above a year ago, and wanted then to have put it in execution. I believe The Commander in Chief knows this to be a fact, but perhaps, as Skinner is Senior to Arnold, the Commander in Chief wished to employ him in executing what he calls his own plan, by way of putting him in good humour.

General Officers

J	Robertson
Q	Paterson
H	Birch
O	Delancey
W	Skinner
R	Arnold
K	Loſsberg
L	Knyphausen
M	Hackenberg
F	Kospoth
G	Gosen
P	Bischausen
S	Wurmb
B	Riedesel

22d June. Warm day. Wind S. Very close and sultry in the afternoon.

The Expedition under the Command of General Skinner, came up this afternoon at 7 o'Clock. The 42d landed at the hay wharf, the others went to their respective quarters.

They landed yesterday Morning near Middletown, from whence they marched to the town, and drove all the Cattle and Sheep they could find, from thence to the high land of Neversink, opposite to Sandy hook Island, from whence they embarked this Morning. They were as usual harraſsed by the Militia, all the time they were on shore, who kept as much as poſsible under Cover, and fired on the flanks and rear. The loſs on our side is 2 Jagers killed, an Officer and 2 men of that Corps wounded, and 5 of the 42d Missing. Ten Rebels were taken prisoners, most of them wounded by the Cavalry. The Prisoners say two or three were killed, and a few more wounded.

This Expedition does not appear to have been attended with the desired succeſs, nor to have been worth the loſs of so many men.

The Commander in Chief is very unfortunately circumstanced at present with respect to the General Officers under his Command in this district. Among those now here, there are very few whom he could trust with the Command of a Corps of any consequence, or depend on for the execution of any enterprize of importance. Among the British and Provincial Generals there is no man of abilities except R; and S, is the only one among the Heſsians, who poſseſses all his faculties, and is clear headed and cool. He serves with zeal, and is attentive only to establish his Character as a Soldier and an honest man. The Regiment he commanded last, is the best disciplined in the Hessian Corps. The employing either of these men, is, from their Situation, Country, and other Circumstances peculiar to them, attended with difficulties not easily surmounted. Should therefore The Commander in Chief have a good opportunity of Striking at a Corps of the Enemy, he must give offence to the other Generals, by employing those men, who are the only ones who comprehend any Military enterprize of a complicated nature, or lose the Opportunity of gaining an advantage.

Our Military system is undoubtedly a bad one, when The King has it not in his power to bring forth into Action the talents of those Generals he has at home, among whom there certainly are several men of genius and capacity! But this is an unpopular war, and men of ability do not chuse to risk their reputation by taking an active part in it.

23rd June. Very fine day. Cool & pleasant. Wind N. W.

Sailed The Quebec, a private armed ship for Charlestown.

The Alliance, a Continental Frigate of 40 Guns, arrived lately at Boston from France. She sailed the latter end of March from L'Orient in company with The Marquis de la Fayette of 40 Guns, laden with clothing. They took several prizes on their paſsage, particularly The Atalanta sloop of War of 16 Guns, and the Trepaſsey of 14. These veſsels having discovered the Alliance, bore down and engaged her, but finding of her unexpected and very superior force, were obliged to strike to her, after an action in which one of the Captains was killed. The Captain of The Alliance, named Barry, was wounded.

The Atalanta, & Trepaſsey belonged to the Newfoundland Station.

The Marquis de la Fayette is not yet arrived. She parted with The Alliance off the banks.

The Rebel papers mention the arrival of several veſsels lately at Boston, and other ports to the Eastward.

Notwithstanding the numerous fleet we now have on this Coast, it is astonishing the number of veſsels that get into Boston & Philadelphia.

The fleet lately arrived at Boston from France, consists of one ship of 50 Guns, 2 frigates, and 12 or 14 transports. They have brought from Six to 800 Recruits; and probably clothing, Stores, provisions &c, for the French Army.

Two deserters who came in yesterday from Dobbs's ferry say, it was told them that the first Division of The French troops had arrived at Peekskill, and the 2d at Danbury.

24th June. Pleasant cool day. Wind N. W.

The fleet for Chesapeak sailed yesterday afternoon under convoy of The Charon.

Came in a veſsel from New Providence. She brings an account of the surrender of Pensacola to the Spaniards.

It appears that The Rebels had notice of the late Expedition to Middletown in Jersey, time enough to drive off most of the Cattle from that part of the Country.

A Captain and 16 Rebel Militia, taken lately by Delancy's Refugees at Stamford in Connecticut, were brought in this day. The Refugees killed two, and left three wounded, behind. All this was effected without the loſs of a man.

25th Warm day. Wind S.

Two Rebel gallies taken upon the fishing banks off Sandy hook, by two Armed whaleboats from this town, were brought in this day.

Six Rebel whale boats have been taken within these few days in the Sound, on their return from a plundering expedition to the East end of Long Island. The Crews landed on Long Island, and made their escape.

The Rebel papers say that a British fleet of transports with troops has arrived in the Chesapeak. Probably this may be the fleet from Europe under convoy of The Warwick, or a part of it. We shall certainly hear very soon from thence, as there are now four of the Expreſs veſsels in the Chesapeak.

26th June. Thick weather and some rain. Wind S. S. E.

Signals at 5 this Morning for a fleet of Merchant ships or transports, with two Men of War. At 11 the headmost of them came within the Narrows, and at 1 some of them got up to the town. It was not till then that The Commander in Chief knew they were part of the fleet that came out under Convoy of the Warwick. The fleet has been at Charlestown, which place they left the 7th June; these ships called into the Chesapeak, from whence they sailed five days ago.

The Fleet sailed from Cork the 27th of March, and arrived at Charlestown the 2d of June. The Warwick 50 Guns, Capt Keith Elphinstone and the Solebay, 28 Guns, Capt Everett, are the Convoy.

The troops that came out in this fleet, are the 3rd, 19th, & 30th Regiments, and about 800 Recruits for the British Corps. The three Regiments were landed at Charlestown, as were the Recruits for the Regiments in that Province; the Recruits for the Guards were landed at Portsmouth, in Virginia. About 300 Recruits are arrived for the Regiments in this district.

Affairs in South Carolina wear a favorable appearance. Greene had invested Ninety Six, but having only some light Cannon, the Garrison under the Command of Lt Colo Cruger, who had some heavy Cannon, had kept him at a distance, and part of the troops from Charlestown had marched to relieve the place.

In Virginia Lord Cornwallis had mounted a number of his troops, was in pursuit of M. de la Fayette, and in hopes of coming up with him.

The Warwick came up this afternoon & anchored in the North River.

27th June. Great thunder and lightning last night, with heavy rain. Close warm weather 'till 1 this day, when the wind sprung up from the N. W, and the day cleared up. Some Rain again in the Evening.

The Solebay came up and anchored in the N. River.

The 3rd, 19th, & 30th Regiments arrived at Charlestown from Ireland, are very complete & in great health. They consist of 90 Serjeants, 66 Drummers, and 2127 Rank and file, of which numbers only 60 are sick; all the rest fit for duty. They want but three men to complete; and lost only 5 men, by death, since the day of Embarkation.

It is highly probable that before the end of the Campaign in Carolina, those Regiments will not have above one fourth of their men fit for duty. We are told they are very fine young men, but the unhealthineſs of that Climate, and the season of the year in which they arrive there, will prove destructive to great numbers. If those Regiments had arrived in Carolina in the Month of November, they would then have been of the utmost service there, the men would have been by this time better able to bear the heat of the climate, and many lives been saved, which will now fall victims to Climate alone. It is wonderful that after so much experience of the impropriety of sending troops from home to America & the West Indies in the Spring, when the Climate proves most fatal and destructive to them, this practice is not altered. In time of War there may be a neceſsity for so doing, but there can be none in time of peace, when it was equally practiced. Our Regiment sailed from England in April 1773, and arrived at New York in June, when the heats just set in, by which means, and by improper bedding, and the construction of the barracks, most of our men were immediately attacked with Dysenteries, and we lost several. If we had sailed in August we should have arrived when the heats are abating, and there would have been sufficient time for the troops we replaced to return home before the Winter.

More Soldiers are lost to the Nation by inattentions of this nature, than by the Sword of the Enemy.

The Carteret, and The Duke of Cumberland Packets, arrived this day with the Mails for April and May.

The barracks at New York were wooden buildings two Stories high; those of the Officers so near those of the men, that the free paſsage of the air was obstructed. The upper part of the mens windows were glazed, the lower part had Shutters only. As the Regiment was complete we were obliged to put the full complement of men (14) in each room. The bedding consisted of a Palliase filled with straw, a bolster, 2 blankets and a Coverlid. No sheets. During the hot nights it was impoſsible for the men to bear a blanket on them, they therefore in the course of the night threw it off, and as the windows were left open to admit the air, the damp which it brings with it about day break, checked the perspiration the men were in, and threw them into Dysenteries, fevers & other disorders.

As the men were obliged to dress the victuals in the barrack rooms, they were heated like an Oven by 1 or 2 oClock.

28th June. Thick fog most part of the day, & very warm. Wind S. S. E.

The Jagers croſsed this Morning at Hellgate from Long Island, and marched to Kingsbridge, where they encamped. As The Jagers have no tents, and there is no wood or brush near Fort-Knyphausen for the construction of huts or Wigwams, the Commander in Chief ordered The Deputy Quarter Master General to furnish them with a proportion of tents to enable them to encamp.

29th — Very thick fog till 10 this Morning, when it cleared up, with a fresh wind at S. The rest of the day very warm.

The Commander in Chief went down to Sandy hook, early this Morning. He is gone to confer with The Admiral.

Admiral Arbuthnot is going home very shortly in The Roebuck.

30th — Very Warm day. Very little wind at S.

The British Recruits lately arrived, landed this Morning, and marched to join those now cantoned in the huts near McGowan's paſs.

Came in this afternoon The Rover, a Rebel privateer of 20 Guns, and 80 men, belonging to Newbury-port. She had been only 48 hours out when she was taken by the Medea. On her paſsage to this port she took a Rebel veſsel, which She brought in here as a prize.

1st July — Warm weather. Wind S. W.

The Marquis de la Fayette, a large ſtore ship of 40 Guns from France, laden with clothing &c, for the use of the Rebel Army, has been taken by one of our frigates, and carried into Halifax. This ship sailed in company with The Alliance, and her arrival was anxiously expected by the Rebels. The Atalanta, lately taken by The Alliance, has been retaken, and sent into Halifax. The Rebel troops under Washington have paſsed The Hudson, in their way down towards The Whiteplains, where they are to form a junction with the French, part of whom are at, or near, Danbury.

The French & Rebels give out that they intend making an attack on this place; tis imagined by those who reflect on the difficulties attending such an operation, that they do it only with a view to prevent The Commander in Chief from detaching troops to Virginia or Pennsylvania.

'Tis hoped that as soon as Admiral Arbuthnot takes his departure, something decisive will be done by our fleet on this ſtation.

I believe it is to be proposed to Admiral Graves, to block up The French in Rhode Island, while the Commander in Chief detaches 3,000 men, under Convoy of a Squadron of small ships to deſtroy every thing in the Delaware, as high up as Philadelphia. Could The Congreſs be routed, suddenly from thence, those friends we have in the Middle Colonies, might be induced to take an active part in our favor.

2d July — Very warm day. Wind W.

The Medea came in to Sandy hook yeſterday from a Cruize in which she has been very succeſsful, having taken two Privateers, and several other veſsels.

Came in a ship from Jamaica.

3rd — Very hot day. Wind N.

The Rebels having of late made a practice of rowing guard with three armed whale boats down the North River from Dobbs's-ferry, as low as Phillipsburg, and after daylight landing at Phillips's house, where they employed themselves in gathering fruit and vegetables before they returned, Lieut Colonel Emmerich proposed to The Commander in Chief, if he would allow him to take 100 Infantry from Kingsbridge, to march to Phillips's late at night, and lie there in Ambuscade, and as soon as the Rebels landed to seize their boats, and attack the party that came in them. This was consented to, and accordingly Emmerich marched out from Kingsbridge last night at 9 o'Clock, with 40 British and 60 Heſsian Infantry. Two hours after, General Losberg, commanding at Kingsbridge received information by a Countryman, that a large Column of troops from Washington's Army, had marched thro' Singsing, and were advancing toward's Cortland's house. The General being apprehensive of their cutting off Emmerichs party, endeavored at first to recall him, but too late, as he had paſsed Kingsbridge three hours before the arrival of the person who was sent to the bridge after him. General Losberg then ordered Lieu^{t} Colonel Wurmb, with 200 Jagers and 40 Cavalry to march out some distance, by way of covering Emmerich in his return, and observing the motions of the Corps he had information of. As soon as the Jagers had paſsed the bridge, Lieu^{t} Colonel Pruschenck, who commanded the advance, ordered a small party in his front, who on their Approach to Fort Independence, found it poſseſsed by the Enemy. Col^{o} Pruschenck immediately attacked and drove them out of the Fort. When the Rebels had retired, Col^{o} Wurmb advanced and took post on the heights, in expectation of hearing something of Emmerich. Orders were sent at the same time to The Armed veſsel in the North River to lay off Spikendevil Creek, and to send her boats in, in order to paſs Emmerich's party over the Creek, as it was probable he would find himself obliged to retire that way. Emmerich's party proceeded from Kingsbridge, and arrived at Phillips's garden without having been discovered, or receiving any intimation of the approach of a Superior body of the Enemy. Having placed his men, he posted some to look out on the North River for the boats he expected; after some time, they were astonished instead of three, to observe a great number coming down, and as Emmerich was sensible these were more than he expected, and that something extraordinary was in agitation, he had nothing to do but lie concealed and wait the event. The boats paſsed him and went below Phillips's — But soon after a party of about 50 men marched close past where he lay; they came along shore, and seemed going to join those who were in the boats. He now ordered his men to charge this party with their bayonets without firing, but he was not properly obeyed: his men fired, and most of the Rebels escaped, however he killed 8, and took 4 prisoners. Being now discovered he had only to get back to Kingsbridge as soon as poſsible. During his march he fell in with some ſtraggling parties of the Rebels, but luckily got clear thro' them all, and arrived safe to Spinkendevil hill, where a little after day break he was discovered by Colonel Wurmb, who wanted him to fall back and paſs the Creek at its mouth, but Emmerich seeing the Jagers out on the opposite side, advanced to Cortland's in order to paſs by a bridge there. The Jagers advanced on their side to bring him in, and in moving forward drove back the Rebels in their front. But as soon as Emmerich's detachment joined them, it was thought prudent to retire, the Enemy being very superior in Cavalry, and having Infantry poſted on the Neighbouring heights, and near Valentine's. About 12 Colonel Wurmb took poſt within Kingsbridge, having only left a small poſt of Infantry immediately on the other side.

About 1 o'Clock two of the Enemy's dragoons appeared on Spikendevil hill, and having observed that all was clear there, they returned; soon after which about 20 horsemen came on the hill, apparently with an intention of reconnoitring the position. Tis thought those persons were Washington, with some French Officers, and their attendants. A few Cannon shot were fired at them from Cox-hill Redoubt and Prince Charles's, on which they immediately retired. At this time some Musquet shot were fired on the right between some Refugees, and the advanced parties of the Rebels.

By the accounts of the Prisoners and some deserters it appears that the troops who came over the North River in boats, were 800 men under Lincoln, and that Washington with about 3,000 men had marched down by way of Singsing, with an intention to take poſt about Valentine's & Poſt's. The design of the whole movement is very uncertain, but it is probable that to surprize N° 8, and to deſtroy Delancey's Refugees were their principal objects. Perhaps they wish to make as much appearance as poſsible of attacking New York, and intended to reconnoitre the ground for the position they propose taking with their Army.

The Column under Lincoln having fallen in unexpectedly in the night with the party under Emmerich, of whose force they were ignorant, and their meeting so early in the night with the Jagers, and being attacked by them, certainly made Washington give over any further thoughts of executing his design, whatever it was, and gave him reason to believe we were well informed of his movement, and were prepared to counteract him.

We had not however the smallest information of their movement or approach until two hours after Emmerich marched: and the movement of the troops under Colonel Wurmb was entirely for the purpose of facilitating Emmerich's retreat.

This affair is a strong proof that when an Enemy means to attack, and is himself unexpectedly attacked, it frequently frustrates his whole scheme.

The loſs of the Rebels, according to the accounts of Prisoners & deserters, and from those of some of our own Officers, was 3 Officers and about 15 or 20 men, killed; & between 30 & 40 wounded. We took 10 prisoners. Out loſs was, 2 Jagers, killed; 1 Lieu^{t} 1 Serj^{t} and 25 wounded, and 5 Miſsing. Lieu^{t} de Diemar of the Anspach Jagers, was the Officer wounded; slightly in the Cheek.

A Company of Refugees posted at Frog's-neck, were attacked by a party of Rebels, but maintained themselves in their post without loſs.

The Refugees at Morriſsania, being apprehensive of an attack this night, drove all their cattle behind N^{o} 8, and sent many of their families over Haerlem Creek.

A number of Batteaux were ordered up the East River by The Commander in Chief, in order to bring off the Refugees, in case they should be obliged to retire by Morriſsania & Haerlem.

The Enemy drew off late in the Evening.

4th July — Very hot day. Wind S. Thermometer 86°.

All quiet in front of Kingsbridge last night. Patroles were sent out early this morning for several miles without their having discovered any of the Enemy.

By the accounts of some Inhabitants who came in this morning, the Rebels and French, consisting of about 300 Cavalry, and from three, to 4,000 Infantry, marched down in four Columns yesterday; (including that under Lincoln, which landed near Phillipsburg: they took post at Valentine's, Hunt's bridge, and the Brunx. Their design, as some of their Officers said, was to attack the lines at Kingsbridge; others said it was only to reconnoitre the ground. They drew off at 6 o'Clock this morning by the roads by which they advanced; and they said they were to return towards Whiteplains. Nine waggons with wounded men, were seen by one man.

Washington, Lincoln, Parsons, Waterbury, and the French General, were with the troops. It does not appear from any of the Accounts that they had Cannon with them. They were without baggage or knapsacks, and their men had only one days provisions. From these circumstances it is probable they came only to examine the ground, and observe what disposition we made on their appearance.

At the Surrender of Pensacola, there were —

456	British, German, & Provincials, at Fort George, & the Redoubts.
62	At the Cliffs, including Seamen.
595	Seamen, Officers, Commiſsaries, Negroes, &c. Included
1113	Total.
23,200	Spanish troops, including Seamen.
15	Sail of the line; 11 Spanish, & 4 French.
8	Frigates: 4 Spanish, 4 French.
	Row gallies, Transports, & Victuallers.
50	pieces of braſs Cannon.
6	13 } Inch Mortars.
6	9½

A large field train —
The British Commanded by Major General Campbell.
The Spaniards by Don Galvez.

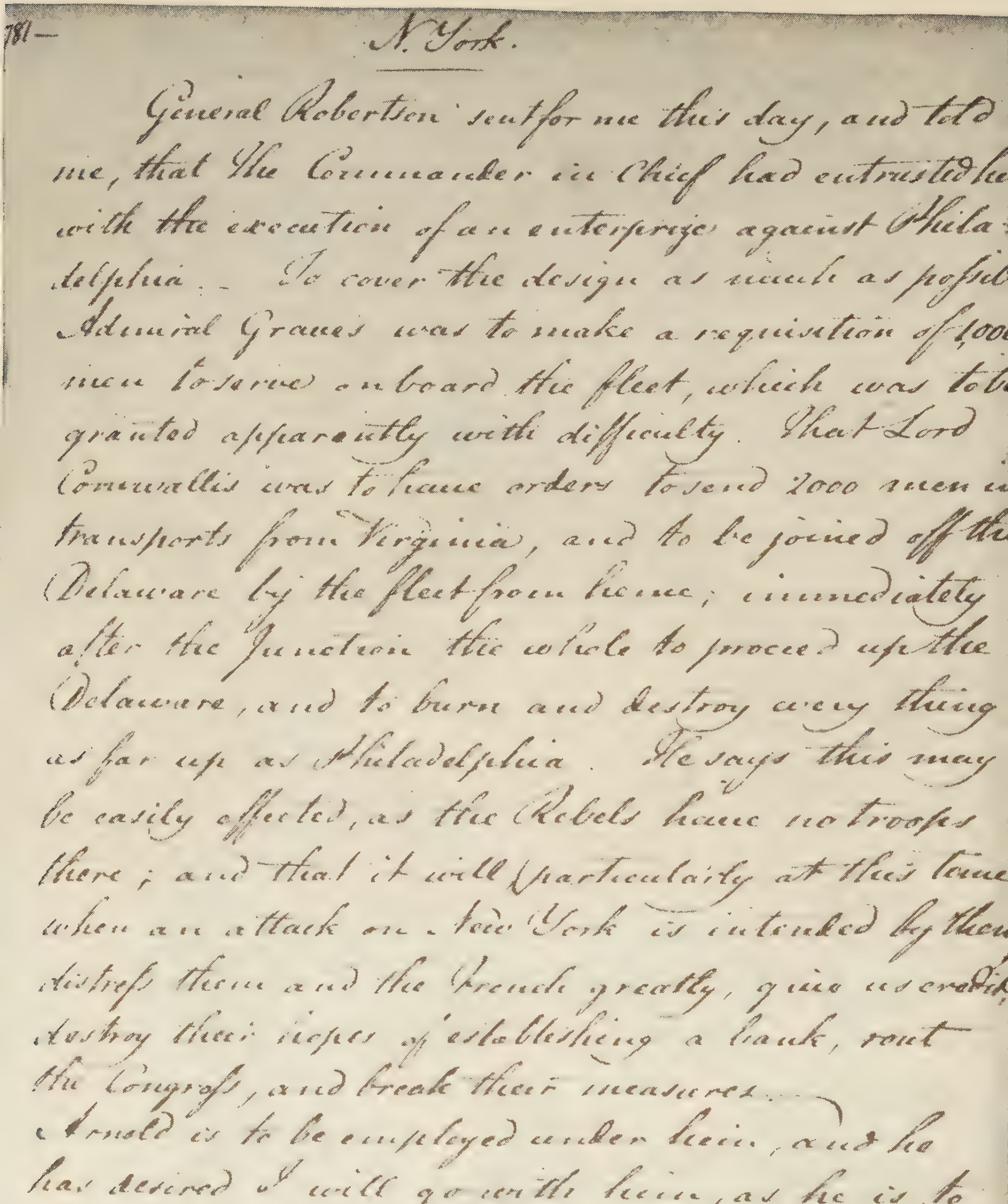
Pensacola surrendered the 10th May 1781.

N. B. I had the above from one of General Campbell's Aides de Camp

Admiral Arbuthnot is going home immediately in the Roebuck. The Command of the fleet, which still continues at anchor about 9 miles off Sandy hook, is given up to Admiral Graves. Admiral Arbuthnot is to call in at Halifax in his way home.

5th July. Very hot weather. Wind S. Foggy at Sea. Thermometer 83°.

Came in yesterday Evening, The Guardian-Angel, A Spanish Polacre, flag of truce from The Havanna, with part of the Garrison of Pensacola on board. This veſsel is one of 14 which sailed from The Havanna the 20th June with the late Garrison of Pensacola, which place surrendered to the Spaniards the 10th May after a siege of 9 weeks. The Garrison consisted of about



781—

N. York.

General Robertson sent for me this day, and told me, that the Commander in Chief had entrusted h with the execution of an enterprize against Philadelphia. — To cover the design as much as possib Admiral Graves was to make a requisition of 100 men to serve on board the fleet, which was to b granted apparantly with difficulty. That Lord Cornwallis was to have orders to send 2000 men i transports from Virginia, and to be joined off th Delaware by the fleet from hence; immediately after the Junction the whole to proceed up the Delaware, and to burn and destroy every thing as far up as Philadelphia. He says this may be easily effected, as the Rebels have no troops there; and that it will (particularly at this time when an attack on New York is intended by them) distress them and the French greatly, give us credit, destroy their hopes of establishing a bank, rout the Congress, and break their measures. —

Arnold is to be employed under him, and he has desired I will go with him, as he is to have the choice of one of the Deputy Adj. Generals.

500 men in all, and surrendered upon honorable terms, and are not to serve against Spain or her Allies until exchanged.

The Armament against Pensacola consisted of 14 sail of the line and 8 Frigates, with about 8,000 Regular troops. 4 sail of the line, and about 800 of the troops, were French.

It is fortunate that the Enemy employed so great a force, so long, against such an inconsiderable place, the loſs of which, considering the circumstances is of no material consequence to us at this time.

By some Rebel papers we have an account that the French made a landing with 2000 men on S^{t} Lucia, the 11th May, but that they retired the next day with great precipitation, leaving their Cannon, Ammunition and some baggage behind. The cause of their relinquishing this attempt so suddenly is said to be on account of the arrival of 8 British ships of the line at Barbadoes from Europe.

General Robertson sent for me this day, and told me, that The Commander in Chief had entrusted him with the execution of an enterprize against Philadelphia. To cover the design as much as poſsible, Admiral Graves was to make a requisition of 1,000 men to serve on board the fleet, which was to be granted apparently with difficulty. That Lord Cornwallis was to have orders to send 2000 men in transports from Virginia, and to be joined off the Delaware by the fleet from hence; immediately after the Junction the whole to proceed up the Delaware, and to burn and destroy every thing as far up as Philadelphia. He says this may be easily effected, as the Rebels have no troops there; and that it will, (particularly at this time when an attack on New York is intended by them) distreſs them and the French greatly, give us credit, destroy their hopes of establishing a bank, rout the Congreſs, and break their measures. Arnold is to be employed under him, and he has desired I will go with him, as he is to have the Choice of one of the Deputy Adj^{t} Generals.

6th July. Very hot till 3 oClock, when there was a fresh wind at E. S. E. Therm^{r} 87°.

Another Spanish flag of truce came in yesterday evening, and two more this day, with part of the Pensacola garrison.

All the Officers speak in the highest terms of the attention and politeneſs shewn them by the Spanish and French Officers. They were allowed to go on shore at the Havanna, and to walk about without any restriction. How very different this treatment from that experienced by our Officers who have had the misfortune to be taken prisoners by the Rebels!

7th — Very hot all day. Wind S, but very little of it. Therm^{r} 88°.

Came in another of the Cartel ships.

The Rebels and French have made a junction of moſt of their troops near the Whiteplains, where they are encamped in two lines, the right near to Dobb's ferry, and the left ſtretching towards the Sound. The French troops are encamped on the left. 'Tis said that Washington published it in orders before the Rebel troops left Weſt point, that he was determined with the Aſsiſtance of the French troops, to put an end to the War, and drive us off the Continent, this Campaign.

A person who came in one of the Cartel ships yeſterday says, that an account was received at The Havanna the 20th June, that there had been an action between the British and French fleets in the Weſt Indies, in which Sir George Rodney had taken 8 ships of the line, with the loſs of two 74 Gun ships of his fleet. He also says that the French ships at the Havanna sailed the same day he did, in consequence of the above information. Not much credit is given to this man's ſtory.

8th July — Very hot weather. Wind S.

The Gardens, and the whole Country, are in great want of rain at this time.

Came in The Amphitrite from a Cruize, having loſt her Mizen Maſt in a gale of wind. Came in also The Rattlesnake, a Rebel privateer of 20 Guns, taken by the Aſsurance. She is a very fine veſsel.

Two Battalions of Heſsian Grenadiers moved this morning. One encamped behind the new Redoubt on the Middle road, near the Reservoir; the other near the Foundery, facing the North River.

The two Battalions of British Grenadiers received orders laſt night to march as this Morning to Hallet's Cove, in order to croſs to Horns-hook toMorrow; but this Morning early they received a countermand.

The 17th Dragoons are encamped on Lawrence's Neck, Long Island, where they are at hand to be brought over to this Island, or to Frog's neck. The Commander in Chief intends opposing them to the French Cavalry, if they should make their appearance again near our poſts.

9th July. Cloudy morning, but very hot in the middle of the day. Wind W. A Thunder shower at 5 o'Clock which lasted for half an hour. Cool evening.

Two of the dispatch boats came in last night from Virginia. Lord Cornwallis is, with his Army at Williamsburg.

The Queen's Rangers and a detachment of Jagers have had a smart affair within 6 Miles of Williamsburg with a very considerable Corps of Rebels, part of Fayette's Army. The Rangers suffered a good deal at first, but at length routed the Rebels with great loſs.

10th — A thick warm haze all day, with a fresh wind at N. About 6 in the Evening it began to rain hard, which continued till night.

The Commander in Chief, and General Robertson, with some of their Aides de Camp, embarked at 12 last night, and went down to Sandy hook to meet Admiral Graves. It is supposed some very particular intelligence was the cause of this sudden movement.

Great change in the weather since the 8th. The Thermometer having fallen 20 degrees.

11th July. Very heavy rain all last night, with a fresh wind at N. E. It ceased raining about 8 this Morning. The wind in the same point, but cloudy all day.

The Commander in Chief did not return from Sandy hook, 'till 7 o'Clock this Morning.

In consequence of the conference yesterday between The Commander in Chief, Genl Robertson, and Admiral Graves, some dispatches of a very particular nature are going off this afternoon to Lord Cornwallis. Captain Stapleton Aſsistant Deputy Adjutant General, is to be the bearer of them, and he is to go in a frigate.

Came in two prizes, also another of the Cartel ships.

The Rebels and French remain encamped in the neighbourhood of the White-plains. 'Tis said they are fortifying their Camp.

Two deserters from the French came in yesterday.

12th July. Very fine day. Cool and pleasant. Wind N. W.

13th — Fine weather. Wind S. after 10 in the Morning.

Captain Stapleton did not get on board The London till 7 oClock laſt Evening. He was to proceed as soon as poſsible in the Solebay to Lord Cornwallis.

Came in a Cartel veſsel, with part of the 16th Regiment from The Havanna.

The Pensacola Garrison are quartered as they arrive at Newtown on Long Island.

14th — Rain from 7 'till 9 this Morning. Thick weather all day. Wind S. Very heavy rain from 6 'till 10 at Night.

The Commander in Chief went to Kingsbridge at 3 o'Clock this Morning and returned at 11.

Came in the Garland, frigate, and another of the Cartel ships.

The Beaumont, went thro' Hellgate this Morning, to reinforce the veſsels ſtationed at City Island.

The position the Rebel and French Army have taken up, is with their right at Tarrytown, and their left at the Brunx.

Captain Beckwith, Aid de Camp to General Knyphausen, communicated to me this day the particulars of a plan he has proposed to The Commander in Chief, for beating up the quarters of The French Cavalry, and carrying off one of their Generals, who lies rather exposed to such an attempt, in the front of their Encampment. He has been informed of the particulars of their situation by some confidential persons, and from the plan of the ground, and the nature of the attempt, it is highly probable it will be attended with succeſs, if approved of.

Return of Killed, Wounded & Miſsing. 6th July 1781. Virginia

Corps	Killed			Wounded						Miſsing	Total
	S	D	R	C	L	E	S	D	R	R	
Light Infantry	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	7	.	9
43rd	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	3
76th	.	.	6	.	2	1	.	2	22	1	34
80th	.	.	1	1	2	.	.	.	26	.	30
British Legion Cavalry	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	2
Total	.	.	11	1	5	1	1	2	56	1	78

N. B. 2 Horses killed, 5 wounded

Officers Names.

76th	Lieut Donald McDonald Lieut Willm Wemyſs Ens: Colin McDonald	Wounded
80th	Capt Cumming Lt Alston Lt Balvaird	Wounded Since dead
Legion — Lieut Grier		Wounded
Light Infy Volunteer Fitzgerald		Wounded

15th July — Cloudy weather, and very warm. Wind S. W.

The General Monk, 20 Guns; Savage of 16, with two Gunboats, and two Armed Sloops, went up the North River early this Morning with an intention to paſs above Tarrytown, but the wind failing them, they were obliged to anchor off Spikendevil creek. They weighed again at 5 this afternoon, and proceeded with a favorable wind up the River. They continued under way as long as we could see them, and no appearance of their being fired at.

'Tis reported that a body of Rebel troops paſsed The North River yeſterday into Jersey. Thier design not known.

One of the dispatch boats came in this Evening with letters from Ld Cornwallis.

Came in a veſsel from one of the Windward Islands. The French have taken Tobago, but there has not been any action between the fleets.

The French are so much superior at Sea in the Weſt Indies, that Sir George Rodney will have enough to do to maintain himself there, and prevent the French from making more conqueſts.

The Rebels and French on this Continent give out with great confidence that M. de Graſse will shortly appear on this Coaſt with a powerful fleet, and a large body of land forces, in order to aſsiſt in, and secure the reduction of New York. Should de Graſse come on this Coaſt with the French fleet, we may depend on seeing Sir George Rodney very soon after him with the British fleet, which joined to those ships now on this ſtation will surely be a match for him.

I think the reduction of this place, is an operation of such difficulty, that the Enemy will not attempt it, unleſs they are very certain of a very decided superiority at Sea, during its continuance.

16th July. Warm day. Wind S. W. Some heavy rain at night.

Several Cannon heard up the River laſt night; but no account of the Ships this day. 'Tis supposed they went as high up as Teller's-point; and are intended to interrupt the Enemy's communications on the River.

The Rebel Army in their present situation receive their supplies of Cattle principally from Connecticut; but almoſt everything else they want, is brought from the Weſt side of The Hudson. The frequent movement of some of our armed veſsels up the River, would therefore diſtreſs them a good deal.

'Tis said the Jersey brigade, conſiſting of about 400 men, have joined the Rebel Army lately.

The Commander in Chief has very good intelligence at present of the designs and movements of the Rebel Army. This intelligence is derived from the beſt authority, and received speedily.

17th July. Rain laſt night 'till 12 o'Clock. Cloudy morning. Clear hot day. Fresh wind at S. S. W.

Came in The Pearl, and Iris: also two Privateers belonging to Meſsrs Sheddon & Goodrich, with some prizes.

Some firing heard up the River laſt night and this Morning. 'Tis reported our veſsels have deſtroyed some veſsels and boats laden with flour for the use of the Rebel Army.

The Loyal American Regiment croſsed at day break this morning from Hallet's-Cove to Horn's-hook, from whence they marched to the North River shore near the 5 mile ſtone, and encamped there.

One of the Cartel ships with the late Garrison of Pensacola, arrived the 14th Inst. Major General Campbell, who commanded in Weſt-Florida, arrived the 13th. All the troops that composed the Garrison of Pensacola, and the other poſts in that Province, are cantoned at Newtown.

Many are of opinion that as the Garrison of Pensacola capitulated not to serve againſt Spain or *her Allies*, until exchanged, they are at liberty to serve againſt the Rebels; the Spaniards having formed no Alliance with them, or even acknowledged them as Independent of the British Government.

The Rebels themselves considered the Capitulation in this light; and when they found that it was expreſsly mentioned that the Garrison should be sent to New York, they expected those troops would be immediately employed againſt them; and were displeased at the Spanish General for admitting such an article. General Campbell seems to think they may be employed without a breach of the Capitulation; but the Commander in Chief and others have doubts about the matter, on which account they are not to serve until exchanged.

There is undoubted information from several quarters, that the trade which the Rebels have of late carried on, (with very little interruption from us) with the Spaniards at the Havanna, has been extremely lucrative, and beneficial to them, having by means of it, brought into the port of Philadelphia alone, near half a Million of hard dollars, besides many articles of Merchandize of value. This influx of Cash, will enable them to eſtablish the bank, which they have lately endeavored to form under the direction of Mr Robert Morris, and which is now become an eſsential point with them; as the circulation of paper money of every kind is totally at an end. Should they be able to bring this Cash into circulation, the beſt consequences muſt result from it to their cause.

Admiral Arbuthnot deserves the severeſt censure, if not punishment, for suffering the port of Philadelphia to continue open to the Rebel shipping, when a 50 Gun ship and 2 frigates would have effectually blocked it up, inſtead of lying idle in this harbour, or cruizing in unimportant Stations. Philadelphia, Newport, and Boſton, with many others of the Eaſtern ports, have for some time paſt been as open to the Rebel trade, as if we had no fleet upon the Coaſt.

18th July — Very warm day. Wind S. W.

A Convoy having been appointed by The Admiral for Halifax, and Quebec, all the Officers and men belonging to the Corps in those diſtricts are preparing to embark, except those belonging to the 4th and Knyphausen, who are not to go to Quebec at this time.

The numbers to embark for those poſts amount to about 1000 persons.

19th July. Great thunder and lightning, and very heavy rain from 9 laſt night 'till 11. Clear morning, and very warm 'till 12 o'Clock. Wind S. Several showers after that hour, and a sudden change of wind to the N. E. Heavy rain from 5 in the Evening till night. Wind N. E.

The General Monk, Savage, and the other veſsels that had been up the River, took advantage of the change of wind, and came down this day at 2 o'Clock to the harbour.

Ensign Elijah Vincent, of The West-Chester Refugees, having gone out two nights ago with 7 men of that Corps, to endeavor to surprize some French Officers quartered at a house in the Front of their Camp, on their way there they fell in with a patrole of 6 Huſsars of The Legion de Lausun, which was followed by an Officer and 25 Dragoons. Vincent thinking them too strong for him endeavored to conceal his party near the side of the road. The Huſsars paſsed without discovering them, but the Officers having observed them, was preparing to fire at Vincent, who immediately fired at, and shot the Officer, on which the rest of his party rushed out, and firing suddenly on the Dragoons, they all rode off as fast as poſsible. Vincent brought off the Officers Cap, Sword, &c, and returned safe to our posts. This M^r^ Vincent is the son of a Substantial farmer near West-Chester, who was obliged to abandon every thing on account of his loyalty; and is a very lively and enterprizing young fellow, and capable of conducting and executing with succeſs, almost any little enterprize of this nature, if properly encouraged & aſsisted. Colonel Simcoe who has had frequent opportunities of observing this young man's abilities, has a great opinion of him.

This little affair, will have a good effect, by raising the spirits of the Refugees, and impreſsing them with a contemptible Idea of the bravery of the French troops. It will also give the French a formidable Idea of the Refugees, and make them cautious of them.

Colonel James Delancey, who commands the West-Chester Refugees, has declared he should not be afraid to attack the French Cavalry with his mounted Refugees. I make no doubt but after a few trials with small parties, they will find themselves fully equal to them.

The French are only formidable from their reputation and discipline; those now serving against us are young and inexperienced Soldiers, and are to make war against some troops, and in a Country totally unknown to them. We should if possible endeavor to ensure succeſs against the first party we attack, which will make our Provincial troops think lightly of the French, for as they are not remarkable for rallying, the first check they receive ensures victory over them. Should the French on the contrary succeed in the firſt attack, which is always very vigorous, it will depreſs our people, and elate theirs.

Should The British troops attack the French, our men should be inſtructed to make a free use of the bayonet in the firſt onset, which will be productive of victory during the remainder of the Campaign.

Some jealousies have already arisen between the French and Rebel Soldiers, it is therefore of great consequence that we should beat the firſt Corps of French opposed to us, which will sink them in the opinion of the Rebels, and encrease the animosities and misunderſtanding which muſt naturally arise between troops so totally opposite in language, Character, Sentiments, manners, and Religion.

20th July. Rain laſt night till 11 o'Clock. Clear Morning. Cool and pleasant. Wind N. W.

Came in this day The Hornet Sloop of war, 16 Guns, Captain Tinsley, from England, with dispatches for The Officer Commanding The Navy on this Station. The Commander in Chief has no letters by her, nor does she bring any others, but those for The Admiral.

This veſsel sailed suddenly, having been but a few hours at Spithead, when she was ordered on this service. There are various conjectures concerning the purport of the dispatches, but the general opinion is that she brings some very important Naval intelligence.

The General Monk & Savage suffered a good deal yeſterday from the fire of the Rebels, in coming down the River, particularly from a battery on the Jersey side, from which, they say, they fired Red hot shot, which blew up an arm Cheſt on board The Savage, and wounded several men. They also suffered in their Maſts and rigging. These ships during the time they were up the River, deſtroyed some provision veſsels and other small Craft. They took a veſsel with the Cloaks and Swords for Sheldon's Dragoons; and another with a number of French bakers and a large quantity of bread, on board.

21st July — Very fine weather. The heat moderate. Wind W.

All the ships of war in the harbour are ordered down to Sandy hook immediately to join The Admiral.

Several reports that a French fleet with a large body of troops, may be soon expected here, to co-operate with The Army now encamped near Whiteplains, in the siege of this place.

The Rebels and French continue encamped in the same position they have occupied for some time past. Cannon, Stores, &c., are frequently brought to their Camp, and every thing seems to indicate their intention of besieging New York.

We are carrying on several works at present, all which tend to augment and strengthen our defences towards the harbour. The works at The Flagstaff, Staten Island, are enlarging so as to bring more heavy guns to bear on the Narrows. The work called The Screw fort, near Brooklyn Fort, is lowering and enlarging; and the Redoubt at Horn's-hook, intended for the defence of the paſsage at Hellgate, is repairing.

It is very remarkable that there is not one traverse, in any of the Redoubts or works, in or near New-York, altho' many of them from their peculiar situation absolutely require them for the security of the troops intended for their defence.

22d July — Fine weather, and not too warm. Wind S. S. W.

Came in this afternoon The Orpheus, Frigate in 4 days from The Chesapeak. Major Damer, of the 87th Regiment, who has been acting as Adjutant General with Lord Cornwallis in Virginia, came in her. One of the dispatch veſsels also arrived from Chesapeak.

Some troops have embarked at Portsmouth, Virginia, for this place. They are part of those required by The Commander in Chief, in consequence of the information he has had that the siege of New York is intended.

At day break this Morning a large Corps of Rebels and French were observed in Motion in front of Kingsbridge, and soon after they advanced and took post on the heights from Cortland's house to Williams's bridge, and placed strong advanced posts in the old Forts, Independence, King's Fort, and others in that line. The Refugees from Morriſsania were all obliged to retire within our lines, but had not time to bring off their stock, which the Rebels seized upon and drove off. About 6 oClock the Rebels brought two pieces of Cannon to play upon the Scow at Holland's ferry, which was employed in bringing over the Refugees from the rear of the Redoubt N° 8 on Fordham heights; but without any effect. A large Column soon after marched down towards Morriſsania point: Mr Washington was with them, and came so near the point with some Cavalry, that some Cannon shot were fired at him, which soon obliged him to move off. This Column returned in the afternoon, and joined the other troops near Fort Independence. The Enemy continued in this position all day, without attempting anything further. There appeared to be about 4000 men, with some Cavalry, and a few field pieces. Two or three French Battalions were with them; their Colours were plainly distinguished.

No movements were made on our side, except reinforcing N° 8, with 20 men. The troops stationed near Kingsbridge were ordered to be in readineſs to move if called upon.

Captain Totten of The Refugees was wounded yesterday, and two or three men who were straggling about, were taken.

One of the mounted Refugees was pursued by three of the Enemy's Dragoons this day on Frog's neck; he had no means of escaping but by taking to the water, which he did, and fortunately swam his horse over the Sound to Whitestone. Another Mounted Refugee swam his horse over Haerlem Creek opposite Haerlem.

23rd July. Very warm day. Wind S.

Every thing quiet at the advanced posts last night. We expected the Enemy would have attacked N° 8, and as there was no attempt of any kind, we thought they had retired, but at day break they were discovered in the same position. They do not appear to have made any works during the night, nor does there seem to be any alteration as to their numbers.

The Commander in Chief left New-York at 3 o'Clock this Morning, and went to Kingsbridge, where he staid several hours, and having reconnoitred the Enemy's position from different situations, and judging that they did not intend any immediate attempt, he returned to his house at the 4 mile stone to Dinner.

When The Commander in Chief went first upon Cox-hill this Morning to observe the Enemy, he sent one of His Aides-de Camp from thence to N° 8, with directions to the Officer commanding there, to order several Cannon shot to be fired from thence; his design by this was to make the Enemy shew themselves, and enable him the better to judge of their position and numbers; this had the desired effect, for immediately on firing the first three or four shots, the Soldiers, who had been lying down, run up to the nearest heights, and Shewed the whole extent of their lines, and enabled him to form a good judgement of their numbers.

The Succeſs of this ſtratagem may teach an Officer how to act on a like occasion. It is very common during Sieges, or on other occasions, when attacks are intended and known to the Soldiers, to observe them crouding on the high grounds and other favorable situations, about the time of the attack, that they may see what is going forward. It requires the utmoſt vigilance of the Officers to prevent this, when such attacks should be concealed as much as poſsible from the Enemy.

The Commander in Chief having gone into Prince Charles's Redoubt this day, in full view of the Enemy poſted near Fort Independence, they were seen immediately, to dispatch a Dragoon from thence, (as it proved) for a piece of Cannon, but before it arrived, he returned from the Redoubt. When the Gun was brought up, they fired 4 or 5 shot at the Relief of that poſt, which was then going down, but without effect; and one shot being fired at the Enemy from the Redoubt, they drew their gun off.

A few shot were fired from Cox-hill Redoubt, at some Rebels who appeared on Spikendevil hill.

No movements of the Enemy during the day. They have no tents or baggage with them, from whence it is certain they do not mean to continue long in this position; and it is probable that their design is only to carry off as much of the forage and grain as is cut, and to eat up and deſtroy the reſt. Perhaps M^{r} Washington imagines that his coming thus within shot of our of our lines, without our making any attempt to drive him from thence, will have a good effect upon the people in general, and induce them to join his army with more willingneſs than they seem at present inclined to. It may have some effect upon those at a diſtance, but very little upon those in the vicinity, who see and know the difficulties they have to surmount in effecting the reduction of New York.

No Rebels appeared near Morriſsania this day, but they have plundered & burnt the huts of the Refugees.

The Commander in Chief has ordered those poor men, who now amount to 490, to be furnished with tents, and to receive pay and provisions as Soldiers during the time they continue under the present circumſtances. Moſt of them have large families.

There has been but three deserters from the Enemy during these two days, owing to their advanced posts being so near us.

The troops belonging to the Corps in Canada, and Nova Scotia, embarked this day.

24th July. Very warm weather. Wind S. S. W.

The Enemy began to move off about half an hour before Sunset yesterday.

By a Deserter who came in we are informed that their whole Army was down, except the Guards left with their Camp and baggage. They were said to amount to 9000 men. They had 11 piece of Artillery with them, and had three days provisions, but were without baggage. They were to return to their former Camp. The Deserter says they expected we would have marched out to attack those most advanced, on which they were to fall upon us with their whole force. I do not believe their Generals had the smallest expectation that any part of our troops would have marched out. It is more than probable they made this Movement to forward the raising of men to join the Army, to drive in the unfortunate Refugees, and to eat up and destroy the forage in the vicinity of our posts.

Loewenstein's Battalion of Heſsian Grenadiers, marched this day to the 4 mile stone, and encamped there, to cover The Commander in Chief's quarters at Beckman's house.

The Pontons were sent last night to Kingsbridge, in order to enable the Commander in Chief to paſs a Column over Haerlem Creek should there be occasion.

As The Rebel papers are frequently full of letters giving a pompous account of every little affair that happens, we may expect to see in a few days something like the following appear as an account of their late movement. —

"Extract of a letter from an Officer of distinction in the Army of The United States."

Camp at Phillipsburgh. 24th July 1781.

"We returned to our Camp this day. The Army has been down to Kingsbridge, where we arrived the 22d, and drove in all the Refugees & Ministerial troops in such confusion, that they durst not shew themselves out of their works during our stay there. We took Fort Independence and all the other Forts outside the bridge except one, which being of great height and thickneſs, and Bomb proof, required heavy guns & Mortars to batter it, but we had none with us. The troops of our great & good Ally, behaved with their usual bravery and good conduct on this occasion; & if our General had thought proper to Storm the Britons lines, there is no doubt but they would have behaved as they have always done on such occasions. Having staid two days in expectation of the hireling troops coming out to fight us, we returned to Camp to get a fresh supply of provisions.

"While we were down we battered their bridge at Holland's ferry, and damaged it so much, that they were obliged to take the Refugees over in a boat. The Fort which they had to cover Kingsbridge was also so greatly damaged by the fire of our Artillery, they were able to fire only one shot from it the last day. The utmost confusion was observed in all the Ministerial lines, and Expreſses were seen continually going to New York to hasten up more troops; they also forced the Militia out to defend New York, which could not be effected, without using threats, and the Bayonets of the Heſsians. Our Officers and men behaved with their usual spirit, and were quite impatient for the orders to move, which they expected every moment after having seen the state of the Ministerial works, and the troops they had to defend them.

"We suppose our General was persuaded by The Count Rochambeau to defer the attack till the arrival of the Fleet, which is expected round every day, when we shall finish the matter by taking all their ships and troops at once, as they served us at Charlestown."

25th July. Very warm day. Wind S.

Thunder and Lightning, and some heavy rain this afternoon.

The transports with the troops for Canada and Nova Scotia, went down this day to Staten Island. The Warwick, 50 Guns, & the Garland, 24, are to be the Convoy.

Came in The last of the Cartel ships from the Havanna, with part of the Pennsylvania Loyalists. Came in also several prizes.

Four Battalions of the City Militia were under arms this Evening on the ground near the Shipyards, and were seen by

Lieut General Robertson. The number under arms amounted to about 1400 men. Major General Campbell, Brigr General Birch, a number of other Officers, and a great concourse of people attended on the occasion.

In case of a siege, these men properly distributed and employed, may be to the utmost service.

26th July — Fine weather, and not too hot. Wind S, but very little of it.

Sailed The General Monk sloop of war.

The Warwock attempted to go down, but could get no lower than Oyster Island.

By Deserters from the Enemy we learn that they have returned to thier former position near Whiteplains; and that Cannon, Stores, &c, &c, are daily arriving, and others expected in their Camp. These deserters also say, that they have a great number of boats in the North River, at a place called The Sloat-Creek, on the West side. They say from 3 to 500 boats of different kinds. They talk in common in their Camp of the expected arrival of M. de Graſse with a fleet and troops from the West Indies.

Our fleet sailed suddenly from Sandy hook a few days ago. Probably they are gone to meet the troops which embarked the 17th July at Portsmouth, Virginia, and that the Small ships will proceed up the Delaware, and make an attempt on Philadelphia, in order to destroy the shipping, Stores, Merchandize, &c, at that place. That City is now a great Magazine of every article which the Rebels want, and the destruction of it would be of great consequence to us, and diſtreſs them materially at this time.

N. B. 26th Capt Frosts Expdn to Middleton Cont.
Hetfields Expdn to Elisabethtown —

27th July. Warm weather. Little wind at S.

Came in The from Barbadoes in 18 days, with dispatches from Sir George Rodney and General Vaughan for the Commander in Chief here.

By some private letters information is received that M. de Graſse intends coming on this coast soon, and that The British fleet will follow him. The French at Martinique with 27 sail of the line, The British at Barbadoes with 21. Tobago certainly taken from us.

Diſtribution of The troops in the Diſtrict of N. York, 27th July

Royal Artillery	New York
22d	
37th	
Landgrave	
Provincial Recruits	
Graff	Foundery Nº River
Linsing	White Conduit house
Lengercké	Bowery
Loewenſtein	4 mile Stone
42d	Greenwich
Loyal Amers	5 Mile Stone. Nº River.
British Recruits	6 Mile ſtone, E. River.
Du Corps	Left of McGowan's
Prince Charles	Right of McGowan's
Huſsars, and Detachs Queens Rans	Haerlem lane
38th	Morris's house
57th	Laurel hill
Donop	Fort Knyphausen
Losberg, Junr	Fort Tryon
Jagers	Kingsbridge
Refugees	Haerlem plain

54th	Paulus hook
Refugees	Bergen point
Bunau 1st New Jer: Vols	Flagstaff
4th Dº	Richmond
1st Grenadiers	Brooklyn
2d Dº	Bedford
Garrison Battn	Brooklyn fort
Knyphausen	Denyces
3rd Delancey's	Jamaica
King's Am: Drags	Jamaica
Am. Legion	Flushing
17th Drags	Black Stump
Refugees	Lloyd's Neck
Garrison of Pensacola	Newtown

28th July. Warm weather. Wind S.

The fleet for Canada & Halifax, remains at The Hook, The Warwick not having got thro' the Narrows yet.

The Savage, Capt Stirling sailed this day for Charleſtown.

There is now no longer any doubt that the French fleet may very soon be expected on this Coaſt from the Weſt Indies to Co-operate with The Rebels & French now encamped near us. Their object however is by no means ascertained, tho' it is generally supposed to be againſt this place.

It does not indicate weakness or apprehension here, when we send away 700 troops to the Northward.

A French Frigate named The Concord, called at Rhode Island from Boſton about the 12th of June laſt; she ſtaid there one night, and took 10 or 12 Pilots on board from thence. 'Twas said she had several Pilots on board from Boſton. She sailed the next Morning for the Weſt Indies. There is not the leaſt doubt but those pilots were for M: de Graſse's fleet. It is probable Rhode Island will be their rendezvous, and that if they form a Junction with the fleet there under M. de Barras, they will move from thence against this place. As Sir George Rodney will keep a strict watch on their motions in the West Indies, there can be no doubt of our seeing him here with The British fleet, very soon after they appear on this Coast. Should M. de Graſse bring his whole force with him, we shall be inferior, but in such large fleets of Capital ships, the advantage of a few on the side of the French will not be a matter of so much consequence as may at first appear. Should the two fleets come to Action on this Coast, it will probably be a decisive one, and go near to finish the war.

We have repeated accounts of the Rebels having great numbers of boats in the North River. As they certainly mean to make use of them, we should be extremely guarded on that side. Should they paſs, or force the Ships now advanced up the River, and effect a landing any where between Fort Knyphausen and Bloomingdale, (The 6 Mile stone) and at the same time make a false attack on N° 8, and Prince Charles's Redoubt, we should be greatly embarraſsed, and perhaps thrown into some confusion before the Corps could be aſsembled. The defences at Kingsbridge are very indifferent if attacked from McGowan's paſs. The Rebels might easily place Cannon on the West bank of the River, and drive the Ships from their Stations, which would facilitate the movement of their boats. Our weakest point is certainly the North River, and I fear some of our posts on it will be beat up, or insulted.

Our works do not go on with that spirit which at this time is so highly neceſsary. There are no traverses made yet in any of the works at Kingsbridge. A few shells thrown into N° 8, or Prince Charles's Redoubt, would do very great mischief. Those works are hardly tenable without traverses.

A Battery on Spikendevil height would soon destroy Prince Charles's Redoubt; and the Enemy might erect one against it in such a manner as to be covered from the fire of Cox-hill Redoubt.

We are erecting a Battery for Six pieces of heavy Cannon on the high ground at Paulus hook. That post is of the utmost consequence in case of a siege.

Mr. Greene's account of his storming Ninety Six, in South Carolina, was received here last Evening. From Greene's letter there is great probability that Lord Rawdon has come up with him, and defeated him; as has been reported.

N. B. Return of troops Embk^{d} for Canada & Halifax.

29th July. Very warm day. Little wind at S.

Several of The Spanish Cartel veſsels went down this Morning. They have purchased a great quantity of goods here; some say to the amount of £10,000 Currency each veſsel. It is generally imagined that the Rebel privateers will make prizes of some of them for the sake of their valuable Cargoes.

The St Joseph & Joachim, a Spanish Cartel, with 160 of the late Garrison of Pensacola, was met with off the Delaware, on her paſsage to this place, by The Fair American and Holker Rebel privateers, who boarded and took poſseſsion of her, and putting two Officers and 30 men on board her, ordered her for Philadelphia, but in her way there, she was retaken by The General Arnold privateer of this port, who took 27 of the Rebels out of her, and ordered her to pursue her voyage to New York. In her way she fell in with another Rebel privateer who took the 5 Rebels out, but permitted her to continue her course for this port. This inſtance of the violation of the flag of Spain, will certainly be resented by that Court, but The Congreſs will make any conceſsion sooner than give umbrage to a power from whose connection and Countenance they reap such great advantages.

Embarked at Portsmouth 17th July

Detachment of Royal Artillery	Amounting to 3500 fighting men.
The Light Infantry	
43rd Regiment	
76th	
Two Battalions of Anspach	
Queen's Rangers	

The Rebels are extremely displeased with the Spaniards for not having taken care to prevent the Garrison of Pensacola from being at liberty to serve againſt them. The Capitulation only says they are not to serve againſt Spain or *her Allies*, until exchanged, therefore the Rebels are conscious, that as the Spaniards have not acknowledged their Independency, nor so much as mentioned them in any one public transaction, they may safely serve againſt them.

The Spaniards belonging to the Cartel veſsels, have been under no reſtraint during their ſtay here, but have gone freely over all parts of the City. Their behavior has been modeſt and orderly.

30th July — Very warm day. Light wind at S. W.

The Speedy packet sailed this morning, for England; as did the Fleet, for Halifax & Quebec, under Convoy of The Warwick and Garland.

Came in a ship from Liverpoole in 13 weeks.

One Rebel, and 5 French deserters came in this day. They left the Enemy's Army at Whiteplains yesterday, when it was said they expected to move in five days, and to come nearer New York. They then expected some heavy Artillery.

There is no account of our fleet yet, nor its object. Several persons here are of opinion it is gone against Rhode Island, in conjunction with the troops which embarked the 17th Inst at Portsmouth, Virginia. Others are of opinion they are gone up the Delaware; but the most probable is that they are gone to the Southward, to cover the movement of those troops to this place.

31st July — Very warm day. Wind S. E. Some rain in the Afternoon.

Came in a Schooner from Charlestown in 8 days. Came in also, a brig from Madiera: she was taken on her paſsage by a Rebel Privateer, but was retaken by The Orpheus.

1st Augt Very warm weather. Wind N.

Four Farriers belonging to the Legion de Lausun, came in with their horses, and appointmts this morning. They abuse the Inhabitants of the Country, and say they are very backward in supplying the French troops with provisions, even for hard money.

Eleven men of the 57th Regiment have deserted from Kingsbridge in the course of the last Month; but there has been very little desertion from the other Corps in this district of late.

The Army in this district is extremely healthy at present.

2d Augt Thick atmosphere all day, and very warm. Wind S.

Came in last night The Solebay, from Chesapeak, which she left on Sunday the 29th July. Captain Stapleton came in her. The troops mentioned to have embarked at Portsmouth the 17th July, remained then on board the transports in Hampton road. It was intended at first that those troops should come to this place, but probably the arrival of a veſsel with dispatches from Sir George Rodney, made the Commander in Chief easy about a reinforcement, as no doubt Sir George Rodney informed him, that should M. de Graſse sail for America, he would follow him with all his force, and such troops as could be spared from the defence of our Islands. The troops from Chesapeak were then countermanded, and are now waiting the event of De Graſse's motions. The reſt of Lord Cornwallis's Army were at Portsmouth, Suffolk and Nansemond, &c, but were soon going to take poſt at York in Virginia, said to be the beſt poſt, and port for large ships, in that Province; where they will probably remain during the hot season. The troops in Virginia are all very healthy.

General Leslie is gone to Charleſtown to take the Command in that Province.

'Tis said The British fleet is now cruizing off Rhode Island, and to have several objects in view in taking that ſtation, vizt, to facilitate the junction of The Royal-Oak from Halifax; to cover the fleet which sailed lately from this port for Nova Scotia and Canada; to obſtruct the Enemy's communication by water from Rhode Island; to intercept veſsels bound to that port, and to prevent the French from detaching any ships to the Delaware, up which River 'tis said some of our frigates have lately been sent, to burn and deſtroy.

3rd Augt Very warm day. Little wind till 12 o'Clock, and then S. E.

Part of the British Recruits now here were this day drafted to the Regiments in this diſtrict, and all the Flank Companies have been completed.

Came in The Alexander, a Ship of 20 Guns from Glasgow, in 7 weeks. She had a severe engagment with a Rebel Privateer off the banks of Newfoundland; and there is reason to believe the Privateer was sunk.

The Commander in Chief went up the North River this day attended by General Robertson and Commodore Affleck, in order to determine what Naval force is neceſsary for the defence of the River, and how it is to be placed. He afterwards went to Kingsbridge, from whence he went over The Brunx, escorted by 100 Cavalry and 200 Jagers, and reconnoitred the ground in that Neighbourhood.

The Rebel Army continues encamped near Whiteplains.

4th Augt Very hot weather. Thick atmosphere. Wind S. E.

Came in the Halifax Packet, Captain Bolderson, with the June Mail. She sailed the 11th June.

5th Augt Very hot weather. Wind S. W.

Advice has been received by the Packet that a fleet with near 3000 German troops, sailed from the Weser the 11th May, under convoy of some ships of war, for this port. They were to go North about, and may be daily expected.

It is very probable that advice of the sailing of this fleet was received by The Hornet, and that our fleet is cruizing off Nantucket shoals for them. It is imagined the Commander in Chief knew of this reinforcement, by his sending an expreſs the 12th July to stop the sailing of the troops from the Chesapeak.

If the troops now embarked in Virginia were immediately brought here, and as soon as they arrived The Commander in Chief was to move with all the force he could collect against Washington's Army, it would be productive of the best consequence. 12 or 14000 men, which might be collected for this purpose, would certainly overturn all that are now collected against us. The movement of a Squadron of the Ships of war up the River, attended by the Gallies, Gun boats, &c, at the time The troops moved, would insure succeſs. A Victory over the Rebel Army at this juncture would put it out of the power of Congreſs to collect another of any consequence. Even the obliging them to retreat from their present position, which would probably be attended with the loſs of their heavy Cannon, Stores, &c, would damp the spirits of the Country people, and prevent them from making any great exertions to raise men, or furnish their quota of provisions and money for the Army.

We seem throughout this war to have adhered to the injudicious plan of dividing our Army into numerous detachments, and carrying on operations in several Colonies at once, by which means we are not formidable in any one place, and actually raise more troops for the Enemy than they could poſsibly draw together in one, or even two Armies. We have been induced to act thus by the vain and ill grounded hope of finding numerous bodies of Loyalists to join and co-operate with us; but we should have learnt by experience how little aſsistance is to be expected from them; indeed we cannot with reason expect those that are Loyal will declare their sentiments until they find us so strong in any one place as to protect them after having joined. Our taking post at different places, inviting the Loyalists to join us, and then Evacuating those posts, and abandoning the people to the fury of their bitterest Enemies, has deterred them from declaring themselves until affairs take a decisive turn in our favor; we shall then find the people eager to shew their loyalty; while the iſsue remains doubtful we should not expect it. After our quitting Philadelphia, & the Alliance of the Rebels with France, we should have acted as if every man in America was an Enemy. We should not then have dispersed our Army along the Coast of The Atlantic, but have kept a large Army together, which would have conquered wherever it went, and secured what it conquered.

This being a defensive war on the part of the Enemy, the more we are dispersed, the more easy do they find it to oppose us. Very few of the troops that have opposed ours in The Carolinas, could have been brought to serve in this province or in Jersey.

If the force now under Lord Cornwallis in Virginia, was joined to this Army, we could immediately commence offensive operations, and be at no loſs for Subsistence: on the Contrary were the Rebel troops now opposed to Lord Cornwallis, joined to Washington's Army, he could not make head against us, nor could he subsist so numerous a body of troops without the utmost difficulty. Had we collected our troops to one point, the Enemy must have endeavored to have done the same, and whatever province was made the seat of the War must have been conquered or ruined.

We are now dispersed and weak at most of our posts. Should de Graſse enter the Chesapeak with the fleet and troops expected from the West Indies, we shall run the risque of loosing all the troops in Virginia.

One of the Battalions of this City Militia is Commanded by Mr David Mathews, the Mayor, and is Composed of the Merchants and traders of New York. General Robertson, the Governor, having made them a present of a pair of Colours, they were out a few days ago to be reviewed by him, and some of the principal Officers, in describing what they could do, told him, they could, March, Wheel, form Columns, Retire, Advance, & *Charge;* "Yes, Gentlemen" said the General, "I am convinced you can *Charge* better than any Corps in His Majesty's service."

6th Augt Thick weather all last night, and 'till 12 this day. The weather has been disagreeably hot for some days past, and tho' the heat has not been greater than 86°, the dampness of the air, and want of wind, has made it more uncomfortable than it would have been had the heat been greater, with a dry air.

Some thunder & lightning, with about half an hours rain this afternoon. Wind S.

7th Augt Very warm day, but as the air is clear the heat is not so oppreſsive. Wind S. W.

The Rebels had a foraging party down below Phillips's house yesterday; and Meſsrs Washington and Rochambeau came forward as far as Valentines hill to reconnoitre.

Several deserters came in.

8th — Very warm till 12 o'Clock, with the wind at S. W. Soon after 12 there came on a very violent thunder storm from the N, with quick lightning and very heavy rain for an hour. Clear fine afternoon. Wind S.

Ships of War now in this harbour

Rover	18 Guns	With Commodore Affleck's pendant.
Huſsar	24	Repairing and fitting at the Dock yard.
Avenger	16	
Rattlesnake ..	18	
Keppel	16	
Recovery	14	

9th — Very fine day. Moderate heat. Wind W.

Seven Continental deserters came in this Morning; 4 of them from a party that were down foraging near Valentines hill yesterday; the other three from the Jersey brigade, which lies on the West side of the Hudson, opposite Dobbs's ferry. They say the common talk in the Army is, that New York is to be besieged as soon as the French fleet appears, which is daily expected. By their accounts the Army consists of about 4000 Rebels, and 5000 French. The former very ill supplied with provisions, having lately received only 2½ lbs of flour in 8 days, altho' at the same time the French troops were furnished with the 1½ lbs of bread pr day, and numbers of them came into the Continental Camp, and offered to sell their loaves, which weigh 3 lbs for half a Dollar, in Cash, as no other money is circulating. This has given great offence to the Continental Soldiers and Militia, who abuse the French, and say that they who have never done any service to the Country, are well paid, fed, and clothed, while themselves, who have been fighting for the Country are almost destitute of every thing. The French Soldiers are frequently knocked down, and their loaves taken from them. The French will not suffer the Rebel Soldiers to come into their encampment.

M. Rochambeau, no doubt insists upon the French troops being regularly supplied with their allowance, of bread particularly, without which a French Soldier cannot live; and as their supplies of flour are precarious and irregular, and the French must be kept in good humour, the Rebel troops consequently suffer, when the French are well supplied. This will certainly be productive of much Jealousy between them, and at the same time points out strongly to us, how much we should exert ourselves to interrupt their Communications. A few small ships in the Tappan Sea, and moving occasionally to other parts of the River, would contribute greatly to this material point.

All the Deserters agree that there are a number of boats and Batteaux in the North River, and that they are building more every day at Albany.

Every effort is making to raise men, even for three months, and numbers are daily expected in Camp.

The Rebels have erected batteries on both sides of the River at Dobbs's ferry, which is their principal Communication, with the Western side. Their position is with their right at Dobbs's ferry, and their left to the Brunx.

Some French Officers were down yesterday at Fort Lee, and traced out a work there.

No public account yet of our fleet under Admiral Graves. It is likely that The Hornet brought him an account of the sailing of the fleet with the German Recruits, and that he is cruizing for them. Poſsibly they may have been ordered to rendezvous at Halifax. Part of the troops on board that fleet are destined for Canada. They came North about to avoid a Squadron of Dutch, and another of French ships, that were intended to intercept them.

10th Augt Very fine day. Cool & pleasant. Wind N. W.

Four French Huſsars came in yesterday afternoon, with their horses, & appointments: Two more came in this Morning.

There is no doubt but if the Armies were in the Field, and nearer each other, the desertion from the French troops would be very great. Many of them being Germans, particularly Duponts, and the Legion, wish to come in when they have an opportunity.

Proposals have been made to The Commander in Chief, and leave asked, to attempt to carry off M^r Washington, by 50 determined Refugees. It seems rather a desperate piece of business, but as they appeared determined to put him to death if they could not bring him off alive, he has signified his disapprobation of the attempt.

It has also been proposed to attempt freeing the British prisoners confined at Lancaſter, by means of some Loyaliſts near that place, who can supply them with 50 ſtands of Arms, and Ammunition. As some ships are neceſsary for effecting this busineſs, which cannot now be spared, it is given up for the present.

11th Aug^t Very fine day. Wind S. S. E. A great change in the weather after 11 laſt night, when it grew cold, and has continued so all day. The Thermometer 20 degrees lower than yeſterday.

At 8 o'Clock this Morning signals were made on Staten Island for a fleet, which at 11 began to appear in the Narrows, and by 3 o'Clock were all at anchor in the harbour. They prove to be The Amphion 32 Guns, Cap^t Beazeley, and the Oſtrich and Britannia Armed ships of 20 Guns each, with 23 sail of large transports under thier Convoy, having on board about 3000 German troops in 13 weeks from Bremer Lee.

Return of the troops arrived from Germany. 11th Aug^t 1781

Nations, or Corps	Colonel	Lieu^t Col^o	Major	Captains	Cap^t Lieu^{ts}	1st Lieu^{ts}	2^d Lieu^{ts}	Ensigns	Staff	Servants	Non-Com: Off^{rs}	Drummers	Rank & file	Women	Children	Total persons
Heſsians	1	.	.	1	.	5	.	11	4	19	20	4	868	41	19	993
Heſse Hanau	.	1	.	4	1	9	.	5	5	.	57	.	665	.	.	747
Anspach Jagers	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	4	.	109	4	2	121
Anspach Recruits	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	3	1	2	1	82	6	2	98
Brunswick D^o	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	2	147	10	.	164
Waldeck D^o	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	6	8	128	8	2	153
Anhalt Zerbſt	.	.	1	.	.	1	6	.	3	.	15	.	415	21	12	474
Total	1	1	1	7	1	17	6	16	17	20	107	15	2414	90	37	2750

Came in at the same time The Iris 32 Guns, Captain Dawson, and the General Monk 20 Guns, Captain Rogers, with The Trumball A Rebel Frigate of 32 Guns and 180 men, which they took the 8th Inſtant off the Delaware. Came in also several prizes taken by those ships and others.

12th Augt Very fine Morning Wind N. E. Change of weather at 11 o'Clock — Heavy rain from 2 o'Clock till night. Strong wind at N. E.

The Sick of the troops arrived yeſterday, were disembarked this morning and put into the hospitals. They amounted to above 500. Principally in the Scurvey & Itch. Moſt of them will recover in a few days.

The Germans usually suffer more by those disorders on board transports than our men do, owing to the want of experience in the Officers, and the natural lazineſs and want of cleanlineſs among the men.

The remainder of the British Recruits, who have been for some time formed into a Corps under the Command of Major Cuffe, were this day drafted into the 17th, 23rd, and 43rd Regiments.

Came in The Belisarius 24 Guns, and The Revolution 20 Guns, taken by the Medea, and one of Goodriches privateers. The Belisarius is a very fine veſsel.

13th Augt Very heavy rain all laſt night, and till near 12 this day. Strong wind at N. E. during the night. Clear afternoon. Wind N. W.

It is fortunate the fleet with the troops got safe in before the gale came on, for being near the Coaſt, some accidents might otherwise have happened. At any rate they would have been obliged to ſtand off to Sea, which would have retarded them some days. The troops were to have disembarked this morning had the weather been favorable.

25 British Soldiers who were prisoners at Lancaſter in Pennsylvania, came in this day, having made their escape from thence. 19 of them came off together, and were conducted the whole way by one man.

Came in this afternoon The Blonde 32 Guns, Captain Barclay. On board her is General Leslie, who sailed 5 weeks ago in The Carysfort for Charleſtown to take the Command in that Province, but meeting the Blonde at Sea, he went on board her, and was driven in here by ſtreſs of weather and want of water. The General is very unwell with an inflamation in his eyes.

Came in also the Swift 16 Guns, Captain Graves in 50 hours from Chesapeak.

Lord Cornwallis has taken poſt at York in Virginia, with the greateſt part of his Army; which is looked upon as the beſt poſt in that Province, York River admitting the largeſt ships.

Nothing known for certain yet respecting the fleet under Admiral Graves; as the fleet under Convoy of The Amphion saw nothing of him, many persons are of opinion he is gone to The Weſt Indies to join Sir George Rodney; but I think this very improbable, as the quitting this coaſt would leave us open to be insulted by The French fleet at Rhode-Island.

Memdm — A Mr Thomas Welsh of Marlborough County, Pennsylvania, is a very ſteady loyaliſt, and very active in aſsiſting the British prisoners to make their escape. He has built a place in the woods for their reception, where he subsiſts them until there is an opportunity of sending them off with a truſty guide.

14th Augt Remarkable fine cool day. — clear weather, and Wind N. W.

The German troops disembarked this day. The Heſsian & Anspach Recruits at the Ship-Yards; all the reſt at Brooklyn ferry. The Hanau Battalion are to go to Flushing, but were cantoned for this night between the Halfway house and Jamaica. The Brunswickers at Guannas near Brooklyn, The Waldeckers at Newtown, and the Anhalt Zerbſt at the Wallabought and Bushwick. The Recruits for the Anspach and Hessian Jagers marched to Kingsbridge. The Heſsians were quartered in New York, and some of them sent in the Evening to Staten Island and Denyces.

The troops in general are good, except the Hanau Battalion, but, as all the new German troops are, too heavily clothed and appointed for this hot season.

Two years clothing, Camp-Equipage, &c, &c, for the Heſsian troops, has been brought by this fleet.

15th Augt Very fine cool day. Wind S. W.

Came in The Aurora, a Rebel frigate of 24 Guns taken by the Royal Oak.

Part of the troops lately arrived from Germany, is a Free Battalion of Heſse Hanau. It consiſts of 5 Companies of 5

Strength of The Army — 15th Augt

Corps	Fit for duty			Effectives			Wantg
	S	D	R & F	S	D	R & F	R & F
1st Grenadiers	23	17	440	26	20	478	
2ed Dº	24	16	409	27	25	474	
22ed Regt	20	16	381	24	16	448	8
37th	20	13	367	24	16	466	
38th	21	11	355	24	16	464	
42ed	33	16	560	40	18	640	168
54th	18	16	386	24	16	453	3
57th	24	13	369	24	16	447	9
17th Dragˢ	13	6	270	18	8	385	23
Artillery	24	14	363	42	26	938	176
Linsing	40	20	301	44	20	388	32
Lengerké	43	20	380	44	20	397	23
Loewenstein	42	19	325	44	20	391	29
Graff	43	20	375	44	20	402	18
Du Corps	59	21	480	60	22	504	21
Landgrave	57	20	485	60	20	501	24
P. Charles	59	20	480	60	22	507	18
Donop	60	21	450	60	22	497	28
Knyphaun	26	8	341	28	8	384	
Losberg	59	22	461	60	22	497	28
Bunau	57	20	440	60	22	488	37
Jagers	80	22	750	102	26	1014	74
Artillery	24	1	300	26	2	302	
3d Delancey's	22	6	271	23	7	357	173
1st N. J. Vol:	22	9	262	24	9	400	130
3rd N. J. Volˡ	22	10	224	23	10	398	132
Loyˡ Amerˢ	13	6	170	20	7	292	238
Kˢ Am: Draˢ	7	3	137	7	3	145	
Amer: Legⁿ	8	8	150	8	8	171	
Guides & Pioⁿ	7	2	93	12	2	177	
Huſsars	3	1	45	3	1	50	6
Detachmᵗˢ	26	2	268	33	2	352	
Total	999	419	11088	1118	472	13807	1398

On board of Armed veſsels —

	S	D	R & F
3rd Delanceys	2	.	34
1st N. J. Volˢ	1	.	25
3rd Dº	4	1	44
Loyal Amerˢ	2	.	19
Amer: Legion	.	.	13
	9	1	135

Abſent within the Diſtrict of 1st & 3rd Jer Volrs

	S	D	R & F
Armed veſsels	5	1	69
Sandy hook	1	.	41
New York	2	2	20
Flagſtaff	.	.	8
Cattle Guard	1	.	6
With Majr Antill	.	.	1
Provoſt	.	.	1
	9	3	146

Fit for duty

	S	D	R. F.
British	220	138	3900
Germans	649	234	5568
Provincials	130	47	1620
Total	999	419	11088

Officers, 12 Non-Commiſsioned Officers and 142 men each. One Company is armed with a Rifle, with a bayonet on it. The others with Short Musquets and bayonets, and pouches with white belts. The whole in Green with Red cuffs & Collar, and half boots, which lace before. The Rifle Company have leather Caps with their Prince's Cypher in front; the others hats. The Rifle company is a very fine one, and well appointed. The men of the Battalion Company moſtly very young and short.

The Anhalt Zerbſt troops look more like Dragoons than Infantry. They are clothed in white, faced with Red; Felt Caps, a la Huſsar; Boots, and a Red Cloak. Their arms are a Musquet, & bayonet, and a short Sword. Over their waiſtbelts, which are buckled over their coats, they wear a kind of Sash of red & yellow worſted. They are good looking, well sized young men.

16th Augt Very fine day. Cool and pleasant. Wind S. E.

Four deserters from the Regiment of St Onge came in this day. They are all Frenchmen, and say, the French Officers and troops in general dislike the service they are employed on. They talk of the Rebel troops with the utmoſt contempt. Some of thier General Officers are going home.

The Rebel Army continues in their position near Whiteplains.

Movement of troops — 18th Augt

Heſsian Grenadiers	To McGowan's paſs.
Bunau	to Jones's house
54th	to Morris's house
British Grenadiers	to Hallet's Cove
Du Corps Prince Charles Knyphausen	to New York
Anhalt-Zerbſt Brunswickers	to Paulus hook
Heſse Hanau	to Brooklyn
Anspach Recruits	to Denyces
1st New Jersey Volrs	to The Flagſtaff
Refugees	to Richmond

Signals at 10 this Morning for a Fleet of men of war. They prove to be Admiral Graves's fleet. The Medea & Amphitrite came up this afternoon with a prize.

The Royal-Oak had joined the fleet from Halifax, where she had been to repair; but she parted from them a few days ago.

A Rebel privateer of 16 Guns belonging to Rhode Island, was brought in this day. She had been but 4 days from Newport when captured, and the French fleet were there when she sailed.

17th Augt Good weather, but cloudy and some rain. Wind E.

Came in The Solebay, Capt Everett, with a French lugger from L'Orient to Rhode Island. Out 55 days, and said to be worth £15,000. She had a great number of letters on board, which were thrown overboard when she ſtruck, but as they did not sink immediately, they were taken up by some of The Solebay's people.

Our fleet came over the bar this day.

Information received that A French frigate is arrived at Rhode Island, who parted from De Graſse's fleet three days before, on the Coast, conſiſting of 24 ships of war, having under Convoy 8000 troops. This information is brought in from different quarters, with some difference, but all the accounts agree that he is on the Coaſt. One account says he is actually arrived at Rhode Island with 28 sail of the line, and 7000 troops.

Orders given for the movement of several Corps toMorrow. The intention of which is to bring a force together near the Northern part of this Island, with which The Commander in

Chief might act, in case an opportunity offered of attacking any part of the Enemy's Army.

The Robuſte and Prudent came up this Evening and anchored in the North River.

18th Augt Pleasant day. Cloudy and not hot. Fresh wind at E. after 12 o'Clock.

The Recovery 16 Guns went up the North River this Morning. Her Captain is to have the Command of all the veſsels ſtationed at the advanced poſt up the River.

The Prudent came into the Eaſt River this afternoon, and anchored off the Dock Yard. She is to have a new Main, and a new Fore Maſt, which are now ready for her there.

The 4 Battalions of Heſsian Grenadiers marched at ½ paſt 5 this morning, and encamped at McGowan's paſs.

Du Corps and Prince Charles, marched at 5, and at ½ paſt 7 encamped near New York.

Anhalt-Zerbſt and Brunswickers, embarked at 6 at Red hook, and at 7 landed at Paulus hook.

The 54th landed at ½ paſt 10 at the Hay wharf from Paulus hook, and at 11 marched off for Kingsbridge to encamp near Morris's house.

The British Grenadiers marched at 5, and encamped at Hallet's Cove.

The Anspach Recruits embarked at 7 at the Flymarket, croſsed to Brooklyn, and marched to Denyces.

Knyphausen marched from Denyces, and croſsed at 6 to New York, where they quartered.

Heſse Hanau marched this Morning from Flushing and cantoned between Jamaica and the half way house.

Bunau embarked in small craft at Cole's ferry at 10 oClock, proceeded in them up the North River, and encamped in front of Jones's house.

The 1st N. Jersey Volunteers replaced Bunau at the Flagſtaff, and were replaced at Richmond by The Refugees, and Militia of Staten Island.

19th Augt Cloudy day. Wind N. E. A heavy shower and sudden change of wind to the N. W. about 5 in the Evening. No thunder. Clear again about 7. Wind N. W.

The Carysfort 32 Guns, Came in this day. She sailed with General Leslie from Portsmouth for Charleſtown, but meeting with bad weather and contrary winds, was not able to double Cape Hatteras, and therefore put in here.

The Royal Oak has joined the fleet. There have been some apprehensions for the safety of this ship, and that she might have fallen in with the Enemy's fleet. Several Officers came in The Royal Oak from Halifax.

Came in an Armed sloop expreſs from Lord Cornwallis, whom she left at York in Virginia.

The Heſse Hanau Regiment marched this day to Brooklyn, and cantoned there and in the Neighbourhood.

A veſsel, bound from Quebec to this place, on board of which was an Officer of the 1st Battalion of the 84th Regiment with dispatches for The Commander in Chief, has been wrecked in the Gulph of St Lawrence.

Information was received this day that the Rebel Army is in motion, supposed to be going to North Castle.

If the Commander in Chief was to march out toMorrow from Kingsbridge, with Six or 7000 men, it would be attended with many good consequences. If the Rebels intend encamping at North Castle, it will hurry them, promote desertion, give us some reputation, enliven our troops, and have a good effect on the Country people, who will immediately conclude it was in consequence of the arrival of our reinforcements that they retired, and that we meant to attack them if they had remained. The movement alone would have a good effect, and it might be made with such precautions, that nothing could be apprehended. An order for the whole Army to have two days provisions dreſsed immediately, and to be in readineſs to march on the shortest notice without tents or baggage, would be all necessary this day. The British Grenadiers might croſs from Hallet's Cove to Morriſsania, and the 17th Dragoons to the same place, in the course of this day. Two Regiments from New York to replace the troops to move from Kingsbridge, and another those from McGowan's paſs. The Militia and Volunteer Companies to aſsist in doing the duty at New York.

Information was received this Morning, that 4 or 5 Armed veſsels, are in the Sound with troops, supposed intended for an attack on Lloyd's neck. Also that 2 Gunboats, and a number of whaleboats with their Crews, and about 200 troops, the whole with 7 days provisions, are at Stamford, and thought to be intended for the same purpose. The whole kept as secret as poſsible.

Troops that might be moved

	Rank and file
Jagers	800
2 Batts Brit: Grens	800
4 Do Heſsian Grens	1400
38th	400
54th	400
57th	400
42nd	550
Donop	420
Losberg	420
Bunau	420
17th Dragoons	300
Loyal Americans	150
Artillery	250
West Chester Refugees	400
Total	7110

To the works at Kingsbridge

37th	350
Du Corps	450
Total	800

To McGowan's paſs

Prince Charles	420

To remain at New York

22nd	380	
Landgrave	420	
Knyphausen	400	
Total	1200	besides the Militia & Volunteer Companies

20th Augt Very fine day. Wind N. W.

Several deserters come in every day. Those who came in yesterday Evening and this day, say, that The 1st New York Regiment, and The Congreſs Regiment moved yesterday Morning to croſs the Hudson at Dobbs's-ferry; and that the whole Army was ordered to be in readineſs to march, and the baggage was loading. It was supposed the Army was going back. No certain judgement can yet be formed of their intentions.

Five men of the Heſse Hanau Regim^{t} deserted the 19th. 'Tis supposed they have inliſted with some Provincial Corps.

The Prudent is refitting at the Dock Yard; and has ſtruck all her yards and topmaſts.

When the 54th Regiment was relieved the 18th Ins^{t} at Paulushook by the Brunswick and Anhalt Zerbſt troops, they were a good deal displeased with the conduct of The Officer Commanding there, and not without reason. The Officers and Soldiers of that Regiment had made a number of little Gardens during their ſtay there, which were pretty well cropped when they were ordered to be relieved, and as the German Officers & Soldiers had no Idea of giving anything for what was in the ground, and expected every thing would be left, those of the 54th began to pull up the Cabbages and other things to carry with them, which the Germans endeavored to prevent, and if some Officers more prudent than the reſt had not interfered, disagreeable consequences might have ensued. The 54th were certainly wrong in this matter, and did much wanton damage to the Gardens.

The poſt also, was given up in a Manner that did no credit to the discipline, or Military knowledge of the British troops.

21st Aug^{t} Very fine day. Wind N. W.

The Packet sailed this Morning for England.

The Robuſte came into the E. River this Morning, and in the afternoon hauled near the wharf at the Dock yard. She is leaky, and muſt be repaired.

About 2500 men of the City Companies and Militia, were under arms this afternoon behind the Dock yard, and were reviewed by General Robertson.

Certain accounts by several Deserters that the Rebel Army has retired from their Camp at Whiteplains; the Rebel troops to Kings-ferry, and the French by way of North-Caſtle. The 1st New York Regiment, and the Congreſs Regiment paſsed the Hudson the day before yeſterday, and joined the Jersey brigade on the Weſt side of Dobbs's ferry.

The designs of the Enemy appear very uncertain.

No French fleet arrived yet, nor is there any certain accounts of its being on the Coaſt. A French frigate arrived at Boſton very lately from the Weſt Indies, and it is imagined she has brought accounts which have been the cause of the present movement of the Rebel Army.

The information we have lately received of a French fleet being on the Coaſt, was entirely without foundation. Perhaps they do not expect a fleet, but on the arrival of the Frigate at Boſton gave out it was at hand, in order to deceive us. I think it probable that if M. de Graſse does come, he will endeavor to go into Chesapeak. In this case their design is the deſtruction of Lord Cornwallis's Army, and tis likely that The French troops will take poſt on the Hudson, and Washington march with the Rebel troops Southward. If they have no hopes of De Graſse they are apprehensive of our attacking them, and think a poſt farther back more secure for the present. Poſsibly Sir George Rodney may have become so powerful in the Weſt Indies that M. de Graſse does not think it prudent to leave the French Islands exposed.

Our fleet are all within Sandy hook at this time, and are employed in refitting, watering, &c.

Several frigates went to Sea yeſterday, and others are preparing to go out. Some days ago we had not a Frigate out but The Pearl.

'Tis reported as a matter of fact, that in a late conversation between Washington, & M. Rochambeau, the latter asked Washington his opinion of the Militia of New York, which he had heard were embodied and very numerous; Washington told him they were troops drawn together in a hurry, and not at all to be depended upon: "Aye, Aye" said Rochambeau, "juſt like yours." I make no doubt whatever Rochambeau said, he *thought* so, and that he conceived the Militia of New York were as much to be depended on as Mr Washington's new levies.

22d Augt. Fine weather. Fresh wind at S. S. E. after 12 o'Clock.

Several Frigates went down this Morning.

The Swallow Sloop of war, 14 Guns, Captain Wells, with dispatches from Sir George Rodney to Admiral Graves, was drove a shore on Fire Island, South side of Long Island, on the 16th Inſtant, and afterwards burnt, by four Rebel privateers. The people got safe to Long-Island. The Venus of 10 Guns, a Rebel prize, taken by the Swallow, and in Company with her, was drove ashore at the same time and burnt.

The Dispatch an Armed brig going from hence lately to join our fleet when at Sea, was taken by a Rebel privateer and carried into New London. The Loyal American Regiment ordered to march this day from their Camp near Bloomingdale to New York, in order to embark for Staten Island.

Bunau's Regiment ordered to march toMorrow and encamp near New York.

I am ſtrongly of opinion that the design of the Enemy is againſt Lord Cornwallis. Should M. de Graſse come to America, and take poſseſsion of the Chesapeak with a Superior fleet, it will be impoſsible for us to give Lord Cornwallis any aſsiſtance, while the Rebels can detach without hindrance, especially if The French troops, aſsiſted by the Militia of The Northern Provinces, act on the defensive on the banks of The Hudson; in which situation it will be difficult to gain any advantage over them, nor can we move into Jersey towards Philadelphia with safety. Should a large Army be collected againſt Lord Cornwallis in Virginia, he has no great prospect of withſtanding them, if aſsiſted by a powerful fleet, nor has he any secure retreat, for should he be able to reach Wilmington on Cape Fear River, North Carolina, his situation there would be as bad as at York, and the force of the whole Country being againſt him, he would find the subsiſtence of his Army a very difficult matter. In case of a Retreat he muſt abandon all the Shipping, Stores, and provisions now in the Chesapeak.

Should the French Squadron at Rhode Island, quit that place to join de Graſse we dare not attempt to take poſseſsion of it, leſt we should be cut off from Sandy hook; besides if their object is the attack of Lord Cornwallis Army, our poſseſsing Rhode-Island would not divert them from it.

Some of The Rebel Corps from Dobbs's ferry, were yeſterday at Paramus, and to be this day at   . Supposed to be on their march for the Southward.

23rd Augt — Warm day. Wind S. Heavy thunder shower at 7 in the Evening from the N. W.

The Loyal American Regiment marched from their encampment yeſterday afternoon to New-York, in order to embark for Staten Island, but the violence of the wind prevented them from getting down. They went off this Morning.

Bunau's Regiment marched this Morning from thier Camp at Jones's house, and encamped at the Redoubt on the Middle road, near the General hospital, New York.

As the principal part of the Rebel Army is in Jersey, some movements are become neceſsary, especially to reinforce Staten Island.

A singular circumſtance happened within these few days at the Flagſtaff, Staten Island: A number of heavy Cannon are placed in seperate batteries, En barbette, along the height which Commands the Narrows, in order to obſtruct the entrance of Shipping, and since the expectation of a French fleet these guns have all been loaded; but when some of the Artillery men were examining the Guns lately, they found that the shot had been drawn out of moſt of them, altho' there has conſtantly been Centinels at each Battery. Some of the men of The New Jersey Volunteers, it is suspected have done this.

24th Augt — Very fine day. Wind S.

The whole Army of the Enemy has paſsed the Hudson, and is now in Jersey, near Paramus, with a Corps at The Short-hills.

As Staten Island is weak some troops are to move near to Denyces, to be in readineſs to support in case of an attack.

A person of some consequence came from Philadelphia to Washington while he lay at the White plains. He was escorted by 30 Dragoons, and tis said brought some information of importance, which probably was the cause of the movement of the Army. He returned very soon to Philadelphia.

25th Augt Very fine weather. Wind N.

The 4 Battalions of Heſsian Grenadiers marched at 2 o'Clock this Morning from McGowan's paſs, and at 5 began to embark at the ship yards, from whence they croſsed to Brooklyn, and then marched to Yellow hook where they encamped. The British Grenadiers marched this Morning at 6, and at 9 encamped near Bedford. The 54th Regiment marched from Morris's house, and encamped at McGowan's paſs. The march of some Rebel troops to Chatham and Springfield is the cause of these movements.

The 57th Regiment received orders this morning to march from Laurelhill, so as to embark at 10 o'Clock this night at the Albany pier for Staten Island.

At 1 oClock this day The Commander in Chief called me up into his room, and told me, he intended making an attempt on the French fleet at Newport, Rhode-Island. He described his plan, and as I had been at Rhode Island for near four years, and am well acquainted with the works we left there, asked me many queſtions repecting them, the situation of Fort Fanning, the ground near the town, the beſt place for landing, &c. &c. I shall put down the particulars in a few days. He desired I would put down in writing for his information whatever hints I thought might be of service to him; to name the pilots, Refugees, and other persons, who know the place beſt, but to say nothing about it to any person whatever.

I have no doubt the enterprize will be attended with succeſs, if we do not loose time in preparing for it, otherwise the French will escape. The Prudent I fear will not be ready in time. Should we succeed it will be a fatal blow to the French.

26th Augt Cloudy morning. Wind S, and blew fresh after 10 o'Clock. Wind S. E. after 4 oClock, and heavy rain at 6, which continued till 8 at night.

Came in laſt night The Solebay, Captain Everett, with a brig from Madeira with 300 pipes of Wine, which was taken a few days ago by The Fair American Rebel Privateer, but retaken by him. The Solebay took a Rebel privateer of 14 Guns during the time she has been out, but as she is not come in, 'tis supposed she has been retaken. Captain Everett says the coaſt swarms with privateers.

The 57th Regiment embarked at the Albany pier at ½ paſt 10 laſt night, and proceeded immediately to Staten Island. They are encamped near the Flagſtaff.

The Loyal American Regiment is poſted at Richmond.

The Maſter of The Swallow dispatch boat, who was taken some time ago, and carried into Philadelphia, came in laſt night, having been exchanged, and informed The Commander in Chief that The Active Brig, which was sent some time in June laſt, expreſs to The Weſt Indies to Sir Geo: Rodney and General Vaughan, was taken within a week paſt on her return, with dispatches for Admiral Graves and him. The Captain of her was taken to Philadelphia where he happened to see the Maſter of the Swallow, and desired him immediately on his return to New York, to inform The Commanders in Chief, that Sir Samuel Hood, sailed from the Weſt Indies the 7th of Auguſt, with 17 sail of the line for New York, and had three Regiments on board with him. The French fleet were gone to the Cape, and it was supposed as they had the whole of the French trade from the

Weſt Indies under their Convoy, that the greateſt part of the line of battle ships would go to Europe with it.

By the Capture of the Active, The Rebels were informed of the sailing of the British fleet, which information was sent expreſs by M^{r}. Adams to Washington, and was perhaps the real cause of the movement of their Army.

As they imagine Philadelphia the object against which we shall now turn our arms, by a Co-operation with Lord Cornwallis's Army, they have doubtless taken their present position in Jersey, by way of being at hand to support the Capital. The Commander in Chief told me he would encourage that Idea as much as poſsible.

As the time the British fleet sailed is certain, it is highly probable we shall have them here in the course of this Month.

The Commander in Chief is now determined to undertake the expedition to Rhode-Island; as the arrival of Sir Samuel Hood's fleet will ensure succeſs. The transports are preparing for the reception of the troops, and the Movement of the troops yeſterday, was for this purpose, tho' apparently for the support of Staten Island. The Corps he intends at present to take are,

Diſtribution of the troops in case the Expedition to Rhode Island takes place

500 Jagers Donop Losberg	Kingsbridge
38th	McGowan's
Q^{s} Rangers	Haerlem
Waldeck Rec^{ts}	Hornshook
37th Du Corps Landgrave Knyphausen Bunau Anhalt: Zerbſt Bruns: Rec^{ts} Prov^{l} Detach^{ts}	N. York
22ed Reg^{t}	Paulus hoo^{k}
Heſse Hanau Garr^{n} Batt^{n}	Brooklyn
17th Drag^{s} 3rd Delancey's King's Am: Drag^{s}	Jamaica
Amer: Legion	Flushing
Detach^{t} of Heſse Hanau	Denyces
57th New Jers: Vol^{rs}	Flagſtaff
Loy^{l} Amer^{s}	Richmond

For the Expedition.
1st Brit: Grendrs.
2ed D^{o}
Linsing
Lengercké

Loewenſtein
Graff
42ed
54th
200 Yagers

N. B. Detachments of Artillery at each place.

The British and Heſsian Grenadiers, the 42ed, & 54th, Regimts and 200 Jagers, amounting to about 3300 rank & file: with 4 Iron 24 prs; 1. 10 Inch, & 4 smaller Mortars; 2. 8 Inch Howitzers, Grenades, Carcaſses, Fire-rings, Rockets, &c, &c, and a grate for heating shot. The troops to be in transports, and to sail in Company with Admiral Graves's fleet, which is to block up the harbour by anchoring off Brenton's ledge. The troops to land at Smith's bay, in the Seconnet paſsage, under cover of The frigates, and to advance as soon as poſsible to Honeyman's hill. The French ships are placed between Brenton's point and Rose Island. There are about 800 French troops and 1000 Rebel Militia on the Island. No Cannon in the works except a few towards the harbour. The Commander in Chief hopes to be able to take some of the works between Green-End & Fort Fanning, by a Coup de Main, or, should they be found well guarded and too formidable, by throwing a few shells into them, in order that he may arrive as soon as poſsible with troops on the heights above the town. The Object then, is, by batteries, to oblige the French ships to move up the bay, on which our fleet is to endeavor to enter the harbour, and either to attack them, or to endeavor to destroy them by fire ships. Should Sir Saml Hood's fleet arrive in time to Co-Operate with us, a Squadron equal to The French might go up the Narraganset passage, and by placing themselves between Conanicut and Prudence, put the French between two fires and prevent any of them from escaping farther up the bay; indeed there is not sufficient depth of water for line of Battle ships above Pappasquash point, and should any of them get so far they might easily be destroyed by fire ships.

I think The Commander in Chief might take another Regiment with him, which should be Du Corps, as a very good one, and for the sake of having Major General Wurmb with him. This acceſsion of strength would make him perfectly secure against any Rebel troops that might collect and advance from the North part of the Island.

There was a general Muster this day of all the Conductors, Artificers, Labourers, Drivers, horses, and Waggons, belonging to the Quarter Master General's department.

27th Augt A good deal of rain last night, and a very sudden and violent gust of wind this Morning which lasted but for a few minutes. Fine day. Wind S.

There is a Ship on shore to the Southward of Sandy hook, but it is not known what she is. Tis said she was blown up last night.

By a Rebel paper we learn that The Charlestown, 32 Guns, Captain Evans, has had a severe Engagement with a French frigate of 36 Guns. Captain Evans was killed, and the Charlestown has got into Halifax.

The Blonde and Carysfort are going to Virginia, and are to take under their Convoy, two transports, with all the Officers and Men now here, belonging to the Corps in that Province.

28th Augt Very fine day. Wind S, which blew fresh in the afternoon.

The Detachments belonging to the Corps in Virginia embarked this day on board three transports in the North River.

A Signal early this Morning for a fleet of Men of War; it was soon known to be the British Fleet from the West Indies, Commanded by Sir Samuel Hood. They consist of the ships mentioned on the opposite page.

Rear Admiral Sir Samuel Hood's fleet. 28th Augt

Barfleur	90	Sir Samuel Hood Captain Knight
Princeſsa	74	R. Adl Fran: S. Drake Capt Knatchbull
Invincible	74	Capt Saxton
Alcide	74	Capt Thompson
Alfred	74	Capt Bayne
Ajax	74	Capt Charrington
Resolution	74	Capt Ld Robt Manners
Terrible	74	Honble Capt Finch
Shrewsbury	74	Capt M. Robinson
Centaur	74	Capt Inglefield
Montague	74	Capt Bowyer
Intrepid	64	Capt Molloy
Monmouth	64	Capt Reynolds
Belliqueux	64	Capt Bowen
Nymph	40	Capt Ford
Sta. Monica	40	Capt Lindsay
Fortunée	40	Capt Christian
Sybil	28	Capt Rodney

Salamander — Fireship, Capt Bowater
Jane — Sloop Capt Knight.

See the list of The fleet under the orders of Admiral Graves, on the next leaf.

In consequence of the Arrival of Sir Samuel Hood, The Commander in Chief has determined to undertake the Expedition to Rhode Island immediately if The Admirals approve of it. He went down early this morning to confer with them upon the matter, and has given orders for all the Military arrangements to be made.

One hundred Jagers has been added to the number firſt intended for this Expedition, also a Detachment of the Corps of Guides & Pioneers. 120 horses are to be embarked for the use of the General Officers, Staff, and Artillery. Some Scaling ladders are also to be embarked.

Liſt of The Fleet under the orders of Admiral Graves, 28th Augt

London	90	R. Adl Thos Graves Capt D. Graves
Bedford	74	Capt Tho: Graves
Royal Oak ..	74	Ardesoif
Robuſte	74	Cosby
America.....	64	Thompson
Prudent	64	Burnet
Europe	64	Child
Adamant ...	50	Johnson
Chatham ...	50	Douglas
Charon	44	Symons
Aſsurance ...	44	Swiney
Iris	32	Dawson
Richmond ..	32	Hudson
Orpheus.....	32	Colpoys
Blonde	32	Barclay
Charleſtown	32	
Pearl	28	G. Montague
Medea	28	Duncan
Amphion ...	28	Beazely
Carysfort ...	28	Peacock
Pegasus	28	Stanhope
Solebay	28	Everett
Guadaloupe .	28	Robinson
Huſsar......	24	Ruſsel

Amphitrite ..	24	Biggs
Garland	24	
Recovery....	16	
Vulture	16	
Avenger.....	14	
Hornet......	14	Tinsley
Savage	14	
Keppel......	14	
Beaumont ..	16	
&c		

Total of both fleets

2 of	90
13	74
6	64
2	50
2	44
3	40
5	32
8	28
3	24
3	16
5	14
1 —	Fire ship

If we do not execute something with so powerful a fleet, and a fine Army fit for any undertaking, we shall be deservedly blamed for our supineneſs. But to let the French Squadron remain quietly and unmoleſted so near us as Newport would be unpardonable. The Navy will no doubt join heartily in this enterprize, wherein they have a fair prospect of signalizing themselves by the Capture or deſtruction of the Enemy's whole Squadron.

Arrangement for the Movement, & Embarkation, 29th Augt

The British Grenadiers to march	from Bedford,	so as to embark at Denyces at 10 o'Clock.
Heſsian Grenadiers	from Yellow hook	
300 Jagers, to March	from Kingsbridge	So as to embark at The Hay wharf, North River, at 6 in the Morning.
42ed	from Greenwich	
54th	from McGowans	

The Pioneers to embark at 2 o'Clock at the Commiſsary's wharf.

The troops to take blankets, Neceſsaries, Camp kettles, and Canteens. The Officers as little baggage as poſsible. General Officers, 2 horses, for themselves and Aid-de Camp. The tents and baggage to be sent to New York.

The Commanding Officer of Artillery to select a good detachment.

Entrenching tools for 500 men.

200,000 Spare Musquet cartridges.

Some Scaling ladders.

4 Horse veſsels, that will carry 120 horses, and 20 days forage for them.

29th Augt Very fine day, but warmer than it has been for many days paſt. Wind W.

Sir Samuel Hood came up to town laſt night with The Commander in Chief.

Information was received laſt night at 10 o'Clock, from a person who left Eaſt-Hampton on Long Island the Evening of the 26th, that the French Squadron under M. de Barras, sailed from Newport on Saturday the 25th Inſt, and had been seen paſsing Block Island that Morning. A person who could be confided in has been at Montock point for some time to give speedy notice of the movement of any part of the French Fleet from Rhode Island. In consequence of this information The Commander in Chief gave orders laſt night for countermanding the movement of the troops, which was all done in time to prevent any of the Corps marching.

Thus we have unfortunately loſt the opportunity of giving a capital blow to The French Navy. The unfortunate Capture of the Active, gave the Enemy information of the sailing of The British fleet from the Weſt Indies, and as they knew it might be expected in the course of this Month, they loſt no time in removing their fleet from a place in which, in all probability it would have fallen into our hands, or been deſtroyed. It was well known to us, that The French were embarking all their ſtores, &c, at Newport; I think therefore, without very ſtrong reasons to the Contrary, our fleet Should have kept the Sea, and

Diſtribution of Transports for The Expedition

Corps	Men	Ships		Tons	Vanes
Jagers	300	Integrity	279	496	Red, 1 White ball, Main
		Milford	217		
1st Grenadiers	517	Apollo	361	745	Red Main
		Eſther	384		
2ed Grenadiers	486	Free Briton	398	700	Red Fore
		Union (Salmon)	302		
Linsing	375	Lord Howe	294	558	Blue, 1 White ball, Main
		Providence	264		
Lengercké ...	448	Peggy	360	638	Blue & White, Main
		Grace	278		
Loewenstein .	404	Alicia	320	606	Blue & White, Fore
		Hope (Peacock)	286		
Graff	461	Alexander	430	702	Blue Fore
		Wisk	272		
42ed	617	Empreſs of Ruſsia	380	898	Red & blue, Main
		Neſtor	343		
		Sally	175		
54th	436	Thetis	376	663	Red. 1 White ball Fore
		Union (Wilson)	287		
Guides & Pioneers		New Bleſsing	256		White, 2 Red balls, Main
Qr Mr General's Depts & Agents of Transports		Elisabeth	341		Pendant, Main
Comr in Chief, & Suite		Briton	250		Do
Major Genl Paterson		Eolus	218		Do
Major Genl Kospoth		Caledonia	209		Do
Hospital		Nicholas & Jane	340		White, Main.
Ordnance		Hope	190		Blue, Main
		Nancy			

watched them narrowly. But we suppose Admiral Graves acted properly according to the whole of his information.

I cannot help remarking here how frequently we suffer by sending small veſsels with the moſt consequential dispatches. Three or four inſtances have occured within this Month, vizt The Swallow, 14 Guns, and The Active about the same force, taken or deſtroyed coming from the Weſt Indies with dispatches from Sir George Rodney, the Dispatch, an armed brig of 12 Guns, taken going from hence with dispatches to Admiral Graves; and the Swallow dispatch boat, taken coming from the Chesapeak. The laſt however was a veſsel of no force, and was one of several which The Commander in Chief was under a neceſsity of fitting out for that purpose, because Admiral Arbuthnot would not send the Kings ships with dispatches, when required to convey those of consequence. We have lately seen The Hornet sloop of 14 Guns sent out from England with dispatches of consequence, and it was ten to one but she was taken or destroyed by some of the Privateers on the Coast. It may be observed that The French hardly ever act in this manner; whenever they have any thing of importance to communicate, it is done by means of a Frigate, so that a misfortune of this nature hardly ever happens to them. I fear our Admirals wish to keep The Frigates cruizing for prizes, which is thought better than employing them in carrying letters, however important.

The Rebels and French are now all in Jersey; principally between Pompton and Chatham. Several of their Corps have been in motion for some days past, but no certain judgement can yet be formed of their intentions. As The French have established their bakery behind Chatham, it seems to indicate their intention of taking post about Morristown. They have many boats on Carriages with the Rebel Army, and our friends in the Country are apprehensive they intend to attack Staten Island. In our present situation, I think they will not attempt it.

As there is some reason to suspect that some persons in The New Jersey Volunteers on Staten Island, carry on a correspondence with the Rebels, and are much in their interest, (witneſs the affair of unloading the Cannon, mentioned the 23rd Ins^{t}) I think it would be prudent to remove that Corps from thence, and replace them by British or Germans. The Regiment Du Corps, under Major General Wurmb, would add greatly to the strength and Safety of that Island.

As it is now our principal post, Major General Smith should by no means be entrusted with the Command of it; his abilities are not equal to it. He is as brave as any man, but wants quickneſs of conception, and promptneſs in determining what should be done, and giving orders for its being carried into execution.

Information was given to The Admiral this Morning by a man from Staten Island, that a veſsel had arrived very lately at Philadelphia the Master of which says, that a few days ago he saw off the Capes of Virginia, 10 sail of the line (French), and spoke with two of them. I rather think that the Master saw Admiral Hood's, and reported they were French.

The sailing of the French Squadron from Rhode Island, and the movement of the Rebel Army into Jersey, with several circumstances attending those movements, induces me now to be of opinion, that the Scheme of the Enemy has all along been to make their effort against the Army in Virginia under Lord Cornwallis. To this end they have made all poſsible shew of attacking New York, and moved down twice with greatest part of their force to our advanced posts, to induce The Commander in Chief to withdraw part of the troops from Virginia, which had nearly had the desired effect, for the Light Infantry, 43rd, 76th, Queen's Rangers, and Anspachers, were actually embarked for this place, but afterwards countermanded. The French Frigate that lately arrived from the West Indies, probably brought certain information of the time of their fleet sailing from that part of the World, in consequence of which the Rebel Army moved to paſs the Hudson, and the French Squadron took the first opportunity of leaving Newport, to meet de Graſse in a certain latitude, and then to occupy The Chesapeak; by which they will secure the movement of the Rebel Army to form a Junction with Fayette and make an attack on Lord Cornwallis, and prevent our sending reinforcements to him. Thus by threatening us with a siege, the Enemy have been suffered to come within sight of our posts, to retire from thence again, to paſs the Hudson, and to advance a good way into Jersey, without molestation or obstruction; while the Army in Virginia was nearly deprived of one half its strength, and is now entirely unprepared for being attacked by a fleet and an Army.

If this is their Scheme, the only thing we can do at present is to move with all our force into Jersey, so as to keep close to Mr Washington, & prevent him from moving Southwards; and should he attempt moving, or detach towards Virginia, to attack him. If the Rebel Army paſses The Delaware unmolested, it will be then in vain to attempt stopping them.

I think, from an examination of the Returns of the Army, we might after leaving a sufficient force at our several posts, move into Jersey with at least 9000 fighting men.

The 40th and 69th Regiments are on board Sir Samuel Hood's fleet.

State of the 40th and 69th Regiments, on board the Fleet

	Lieu^{t} Colonel	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Adjutants	Surgeons	Mates	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & file	Wanting to Complete
40th	.	1	4	8	5	1	1	1	29	21	253	305
69th	1	1	8	11	6	1	.	.	30	22	577	76
Total	1	2	12	19	11	2	1	1	59	43	830	381

30th Aug^{t} Warm day. Wind S.

The Richmond Frigate came in this Morning from York in Virginia, which place she left on Sunday the 26th. All Lord Cornwallis's Army was then at York, where the laſt Corps arrived the 22d from Portsmouth. They had fortified Gloucester, and were at work at York. Lord Cornwallis is not fortifying in expectation of being attacked, but in order to secure a safe port for the line of Battle ships, and to enable himself to remain on the defensive after having detached troops to this place, and until the hot months are over.

The troops under His Lordship's Command are in general healthy. Fayette is near Williamsburgh.

Came in this day a veſsel from Jamaica, and one from Ireland; also a large Dutch ship with a valuable Cargo of Sugar &c, prize to one of Goodriches privateers, but laſt from Chesapeak. By the Jamaica veſsel we learn, that a fleet of near 200 sail of Merchant ships from Jamaica for Europe had nearly been taken in the Windward paſsage by the French Fleet which was going from Martinico to The Cape, but fortunately two of our frigates which were ahead, having discovered them, made a signal for an Enemy's fleet, on which ours put about and got safe back to Jamaica. The Spaniards having about 15 sail of the line at the Havanna, our fleet durſt not attempt going the usual track through the Gulph of Florida.

The 40th Regiment is to disembark from Sir Samuel Hood's fleet as soon as poſsible. The Commander in Chief has required the 69th Regiment also, but the Admiral says the fleet will be much short of their complement if they are landed, and has therefore declined it for the present. The Commander in Chief expected three Regiments in this fleet, and that they would be immediately landed to reinforce his Army.

Ships going to Virginia, with the Detachments

The Minerva	Guards 17th 23rd 80th Light Infantry
The Antelope	43rd 71st 76th Legion
The Polly	Heſsians Anspachers

Memd^{m} — The Commander in Chief desired me to give him a State of the following Corps, who are to be employed immediately; viz^{t} 38th, 54th, 3rd Delanceys, and Loyal Americans.

Lieu^{t} Cramond, 42nd Regiment, Aid de-Camp to General Knyphausen died this Morning of a Yellow fever, after a few days illneſs; and was buried this Evening with the usual Military honors. He was a very accomplished young man, much eſteemed and lamented by those who knew him. A great number of Officers attended the funeral.

31st Aug^{t} — Fine weather. Wind W.

The Prudent, has now got in her lower Maſts, and is rigging with great expedition.

The 37th Regiment marched at 5 this Morning from New York, and encamped at McGowan's paſs. The 40th Regiment landed from the fleet and took up the barracks of the 37th. This Regiment is weak in point of numbers, but their men look healthy, and in very good order.

Lord Cornwallis having made a requisition of entrenching tools, Cannon, provisions, &c, for the Army under his Command, the veſsels that were to have sailed this day for Chesapeak with the Detachments belonging to the Corps in Virginia, were detained until the articles required by His Lordship can be shipped on board veſsels allotted to receive them, that they may take advantage of the same Convoy, The Blonde, & the Carysfort.

1st Sept^{r} Very fine cool day. Wind N. W. in the morning, and S. in the afternoon.

That part of Admiral Graves's fleet which was within Sandy hook, went out laſt night and this Morning. The Prudent and Robuſte are ſtill in the Eaſt River.

'Tis said a fleet sailed from England the middle of June under Convoy of The Centurion & other ships, for this port, and that there are four Regimts on board to reinforce this Army. I think they run a great risk of falling in with the Squadron under M. de Barras, or the fleet commanded by de Graſse which may be daily expected on the Coaſt.

State of the Troops, New York Diſtrict, 1st Septr —

Corps	Fit for duty	Sick	Effectives
Royal Artillery	354	56	939
17th Dragoons	268	59	388
1st Grenadiers	432	47	481
2nd Do	417	49	472
22nd Regiment	371	54	440
37th	390	59	462
38th	366	80	449
40th	283	24	307
42nd	540	96	640
54th	384	58	444
57th	351	48	408
69th	...	..	...
Jagers	711	119	1115
Linsing	311	76	388
Lengercké	349	47	397
Loewenstein	303	86	391
Graff	373	25	400
Du Corps	431	71	503
Landgrave	478	26	506
P. Charles	477	30	508
Donop	446	47	494
Losberg	467	25	496
Knyphausen	235	95	349
Bunau	423	78	503
Heſse Hanau	601	90	691
Anhalt Zerbſt	317	79	396
Brunswickers	135	12	148
Waldeckers	124	127	504
German Artillery	...	..	...
Heſse Hanau Jagers	34	12	46
3rd Delanceys	260	59	354
1st N. J. Volrs	248	46	399
4th N. J. Volrs	216	31	400
Guides & Pions	91	13	178
Loyal Amers	155	56	294
Ks Am: Drags	128	28	156
Amer: Legion	174	18	196

The British fleet under the Command of Admirals Graves, Hood, and Drake, went to Sea this day.

The Rebels have moved some Corps to the Southward, supposed to be intended to reinforce the Corps under Fayette in Virginia. I wish we may not see Washington follow them, and a grand effort made by The French and Rebels against Lord Cornwallis's Army.

An Expedition is immediately to go against New-London under the Command of Arnold, to destroy some shipping, and a quantity of Stores there. It is a remarkable place for Privateers.

2nd Septr — Good weather, and not hot. Wind S, which blew fresh in the afternoon.

The Detachment of Jagers, The 38th, and 54th Regiments marched this morning to Horn's hook, and at 6 o'Clock croſsed from thence to Hallet's Cove, and then marched to Newtown and that Neighbourhood, where they cantoned. The 40th, croſsed at day break to Brooklyn, and the 3rd N. Jersey Volunteers & Loyal Americans at the same time to Denyces, from whence they Marched and joined the other Corps at Newtown and Cantoned with them.

A number of the Small veſsels belonging to The Quarter Master General's Department went thro' Hellgate early this Morning, to Whitestone, where they are to receive the troops going with General Arnold. Several of the small, Armed vessels, some Gun boats &c, went through Hellgate at the same time without any accident. The Amphion 32 Guns Capt Bazely, and the Recovery 16 Guns, Captain went up the East River this afternoon in order to go through Hellgate, but the wind being too high they anchored off Kipp's bay.

The Commander in Chief has received some authentic information respecting the object of the Enemy. A large Corps, consisting of all the French troops, The Congreſs Regiment, the Jersey brigade, The New York troops, and a Corps of Light Infantry, under Rochambeau, Washington Lincoln and other Generals are on their march to the Southwards. Part of them were at Trenton two days ago. All the troops belonging to the Northern Colonies, amounting to about 3000 men, are left in the Highlands, West point, and some of the adjacent posts in Jersey.

General Robertson & Knyphausen had a long conference with The Commander in Chief this day, in consequence of which an arrangement was made for moving two Corps to the Southward under certain circumſtances, leaving between Six and 7000 men at this poſt.

The French fleet may be daily expected on the Coaſt, and there now seems to be no doubt but the Enemy intend turning their utmoſt force againſt Lord Cornwallis's Army. If the French come with a Superior fleet, that Army muſt be left to their own exertions, for there will hardly be a poſsibility of releiving them, unleſs by our gaining a victory at Sea. Should Washington paſs the Delaware with the troops abovementioned, and the French have a superior fleet on the Coaſt, we have only to endeavor to make a diversion in Lord Cornwallis's favor, by entering Jersey with a large corps and if poſsible taking poſseſsion of Philadelphia. The attack of The Highland poſts, an enterprize of much difficulty, would hardly operate in his Lordship's favor.

Troops for The Expedition againſt New London

	Officers	Men	
Jagers	5	112	103–1651
38th	17	360	
40th	21	304	
54th	17	424	
3rd N. J. Vol^{s}	15	166	
Loyal Americans	17	165	
Amer^{n} Legion	11	120	

2. 6 p^{rs}
1–8 Inch Howitzer
200 Hand grenades
Rockets, fire rings, &c.
Spare Ammun^{n} for 1500 men
4 Off^{rs} & a prop^{n} of Art^{y} Men
24 Horses

Embark at 10 oClock, 2nd Sept^{r} at Albany pier, paſs to Brooklyn, and March to Newtown —

Arrangement for 2ed Sept^{r}

38th, 54th, & Jagers, to be at Hellgate at 6. Croſs to Hallets cove. March to Newtown.

40th Croſs at Day break to Brooklyn, & march to Newtown.

3rd N. J. V. & Loy^{l} Amer^{s} Croſs at day break to Denyce's, & march to Newtown. Amer^{n} Legion, remain at Flushing —

The troops to take Blankets, Kettles, Canteens, a few Neceſsaries, and two days provisions. Leave tents ſtanding. No horses. A Waggon to attend each Corps for the use of the Officers.

Brigadier General Arnold to Command —

We conclude that Sir George Rodney thought 14 ships of the line, joined to those under the Command of Admiral Graves, fully equal to what de Graſse can aſsemble on this Coast. Much is to be apprehended at present for the safety of the fleet expected from England.

3rd Septr Thick weather most of the day. Fresh wind at S. S. W. Great appearance of rain and blowing weather; but the afternoon proved fine, and calm.

The Amphion and Recovery went safe thro' Hellgate at 10 this Morning. Those ships, with the veſsels already in the Sound, are to Convoy Arnold's Expedition. As soon as it was observed that the ships had paſs'd Hellgate, orders sent for the troops composing Arnold's Corps, to march to Whitestone, where they are to embark this night, and from whence, if the weather proves favorable they will proceed toMorrow Morning to the place of their destination.

Came in last night The Pegasus Captain Stanhope. He informs us that the 1st Inst in Latitude 39° 40 , and 60 leagues from the land, having 6 Navy Victuallers under his Convoy, from Antigua for New York, he was chaced by a large fleet, which he *supposes* to have been French, standing for the Chesapeak, and said to consist of 14 sail of the line and 40 transports; that he immediately made the best of his way for this port, and concludes that the Victuallers are all taken.

A Prize which came in last night, says she saw the French fleet the 31st, and the British the day after. The latter standing for the Capes of Virginia. There is little doubt but an Action must ensue, and from the probable superiority of The British fleet, we have reason to hope for the most brilliant succeſs.

A Cartel from Philadelphia in 5 days, says, that she met the British fleet the 1st Inst steering with a fair wind for the Capes of the Delaware.

The Langrave's Regiment encamped this Morning on the field behind the Dock yard.

The Pegasus went down this Morning.

The Jagers, British and Heſsian Grenadiers, 37th, 42nd, Du Corps, Prince Charles's and Bunau, with the 17th Dragoons, ordered this day to be in readineſs to embark on the shortest notice.

The British fleet now out consists of 19 ships of the line, 2, of 50, and 14 frigates, with a fire-ship and several Sloops. A force we hope much superior to any the French can aſsemble on this Coast.

Should our fleet meet with the expected succeſs, M^{r} Washington's Army will be in a dangerous situation; for there is no doubt but The Commander in Chief will immediately, in conjunction with Lord Cornwallis's Army, make every poſsible effort to attack and disperse it.

4th Sept^{r} Hazy morning, and fresh wind at S. W. Fine day, but warm and damp. Wind N. W. in the afternoon.

Came in last night an expreſs veſsel from York in Virginia, which she left the 31st of August. She brings a letter from Lord Cornwallis, informing the Commander in Chief, that on that day a French Ship of the line, with two Frigates, and The Loyalist, which they had taken, anchored in York River, and that between 30 and 40 sail, mostly ships of war, were at anchor within the Capes.

This veſsel paſsed within Musquet shot of one of the French ships. On her Paſsage she saw a fleet steering for the Capes of Virginia, which the Master took to be Admiral Graves's, but as his orders were positive to make the best of his way to this place, he did not speak with them. 'Tis said the French fleet in the Chesapeak amounts to 17 sail of the line; as the British fleet is so much superior, and our Admirals are men of tried Courage and acknowledged abilities, there is every reason to expect a most Glorious Victory at last over the French fleet. It is not very probable that M. de Barras has yet joined de Graſse, who not knowing of the arrival of Sir Samuel Hood, will be rather surprized at the sight of so powerful a fleet. The defeat of this fleet will in all probability decide the fate of America.

The Commander in Chief is determined to be ready to act with The Army the moment anything decisive happens between the Fleets, and therefore this day gave orders for a Corps of near 4000 men, to embark the 6th. I think he will aſsemble this Corps at Sandy hook, and in case of the defeat of The French fleet, proceed immediately either to the Chesapeak or Delaware, as circumstances may point out.

The Expedition under Arnold sailed this Morning from Whitestone at 5 oClock, with a fair wind.

The Armed Brig Sir Henry Clinton of   Guns, belonging to the Aſsociated Loyalists, overset the 1st Instant in the Sound, in a sudden gust of wind, and sunk very soon. She was returning

Distribution of Transports

Corps	Ships		Tons	Vanes
1st Grenadiers	Apollo	361	745	Red — Main
	Esther	384		
2ed Grenadiers	Free Briton	398	700	Red — Fore
	Union	302		
Linsing	Lord Howe	294	558	Blue, 1 White ball, Main
	Providence	264		
Lengercké	Peggy	360	638	Blue & White, Main
	Grace	278		
Loewenstein	Alicia	320	606	Blue & White, Fore
	Hope	286		
Graff	Alexander	430	702	Blue — Fore
	Wisk	272		
37th Regiment	Thetis	376	663	Red, 1 White ball, Main.
	Union (Wilson)	287		
42ed	Empreſs of Ruſsia	380	989	Red & blue, Main
	Nestor	343		
	Betsy	266		
Du Corps	Antonetta	282	888	White — Fore
	Keppel	334		
	Munificence	272		
Jagers	Integrity	279	694	
	Milford	217		
	Joseph	198		
17th Drags & Pioneers 40 Men. 20 Men	New Bleſsing	256		White, 2 Red balls, Main
Qr Mr Genl & Agents	Elisabeth		341	Pendant
Commandr in Chief	Briton		250	Pendant
Genl Paterson	Eolus		218	Pendant
Genl Kospoth	Caledonia		209	Pendant
Hospital	Nicholas & Jane		340	
Ordnance	Hope		190	
	Nancy			

from an Expedition to Newhaven, and 'tis said had a number of Cattle on board. 3 of her men and one prisoner were drowned, but all the rest of the people on board were taken up by the boats.

Came in two of the Victuallers which The Pegasus had under her Convoy lately.

Came in also The Pearl, 32 Guns, Capt Montague from a Cruize in Boston bay.

5th Septr Very fine day. Wind N. in the morning, and Southerly in the Middle of the day. N. again at night.

A Whaleboat came in last night with letters from Lord Cornwallis. She was sent back at 1 o'Clock this Morning. The French fleet were in the Chesapeak, and some of their ships in York River. The Army under Lord Cornwallis are very busy in fortifying their posts at York and Gloucester, and are in great spirits. Admiral Graves's fleet had not been seen, nor had Barras joined de Graſse.

Arrangement for the Embarkation the 6th Septr

British Grenadiers, March from Bedford, & Embark at Denyces at 8 in Morng

Heſsian Grenadiers — Embark at Denyces at 8 in the Morning.

37th March from McGowan's	So as to embark at The Hay wharf, N. York	at 8 in the Morning
42nd March from Greenwich		at 6 in the Morning
Jagers, March fm Kingsbridge		at 10 in the Morning

40, of 17th Dragoons, March from Fresh Meadows, So as to Embk at Brooklyn at 10.

30 Pioneers, March from Horn's hook, and Embk at 10 Morng, behind the burnt Church.

The General Officers are, Leslie, Paterson, Ld Lincoln & Kospoth. The troops to take Camp Equipage & light baggage. The Field Officers and Staff, take their horses on board their respective transports: To take the Regimental Waggons & the horse harneſs on board.

Horse veſsels will be provided for the horses of the Generals and General Staff.

The Waggon & Artillery horses, to be given up to the Quarr Mr General. No Women or heavy baggage to be embarked. A proper person to be left by each Corps to take care of them. The women to be provided for in the Neighbourhood of their respective encampments.

20 days Pork, Flour, & Rum for 12,000 men to be taken; besides the 70 days provisions in the transports.

The Commander in Chief has determined to take more troops with him if he finds it neceſsary to leave this, and has ordered transports to be prepared for the 54th Regiment, and Prince Charles's.

The Rainham-hall, an Ordnance transport, formerly an East-Indiaman, is ordered for the 54th Regiment, which, tho' on the expedition with Arnold, is expected back in three or 4 days. The transports for Du Corps are not quite ready but that Regiment will embark tomorrow; and Prince Charles's as soon as the ships can be prepared for their reception. Major General Wurmb is to command the two Heſsian Regiments.

A Rebel Mail taken very lately in the Country, on its way from Philadelphia to the Eastward, was brought in this morning

An Exact liſt of Admiral Graves's fleet

Ships	Guns	Commanders	Ships	Guns	Commanders
London	90	Rear Ad^{l} T. Graves Capt^{t} David Graves	Aſsurance	44	Swiney
			La Nymphe	40	Ford
Barfleur	90	R. Ad^{l} Sir S. Hood Captain Hood	Santa Monica	40	Lindsay
			La Fortunée	40	Chriſtian
Princeſsa	70	R. Ad^{l} F. S. Drake Capt^{t} Knatchbull	Richmond	32	Hudson
			Orpheus	32	Colpoys
Bedford	74	Capt^{t} Tho^{s} Graves	Iris	32	Dawson
Royal-Oak	74	Ardesoif	Sybil	28	Rodney
Invincible	74	Saxton	Pegasus	28	Stanhope
Alcide	74	Thompson	Carysfort	28	Peacock
Alfred	74	Bayne	Solebay	28	Everett
Ajax	74	Charrington	Medea	28	Duncan
Resolution	74	L^{d} R. Manners	Amphitrite	24	Biggs
Centaur	74	Inglefield	Jane	14	Knight
Montague	74	Bowen	Salamander	8	Bowater
Terrible	74	Finch			
Shrewsbury	74	M. Robinson			
Monarch	74	Reynolds			
Europe	64	Child			
America	64	Thompson			
Belliqueux	64	Brine			
Intrepid	64	Molloy			
Adamant	50	G. Johnſton			
Chatham	50	Douglas			

N. B. Robuſte 74 } repairing at
Prudent 64 } N. York.

by some persons who went out on purpose to intercept it. It does not contain any particular information, as there are none of Washington's letters in it.

If Admiral Graves is fortunate enough to reach the Chesapeak before M. de Barras, we have great reason to hope he may be able to deſtroy the fleet of the Enemy within the Capes, or intercept that from Rhode Island in their attempt to form a junction. If the wind proves favorable the Admiral will no doubt endeavor to burn the fleet of M. de Grasse. He has a fire ship with him.

6th Sept^{r} Very fine day. Wind N. in the morning, which shifted to the Eaſtward before night, and blew fresh. This wind is extremely favorable for the return of Gen^{l} Arnold.

The troops embarked this morning agreeable to the arrangement.

Came in early this Morning The Zebra, 16 Guns — Capt^{t} from England, by way of Antigua with dispatches. She left Antigua 14 days ago. This Sloop was dispatched from

England to The West Indies, in consequence of the advice sent home by The Commander in Chief that the French intended to order their fleet to the Coast of America to act against us. She was to order Admiral Hood to proceed immediately with the fleet in the West Indies to New York, and to inform Admiral Graves, that Admiral Digby was only waiting for a wind to sail with a fleet for this port.

The Zebra sailed the 15th June. She brings an account of an Action between Commodore Johnston's Squadron, and a Squadron of French ships under M. de Suffrein at St Jago, one of the Cape de Verd Islands, in which the French were beat off.

Came in this morning a whale boat rowing 14 Oars, from York in Virginia, which place she left the 2d in the Evening. The person who Commands her says, there were then two French ships of the line, and two frigates in York River, 7 miles below the town. The rest of the French fleet lay in the bay, off the horse-shoe. That about 25 sail of transports had gone up James's River. He says The French fleet consists of 17 sail of the line besides Frigates, that he paſsed them at 12 oClock the 3rd Instant, and that M. de Barras had not then joined. He did not see any part of the British fleet.

The British ships of war in York-River, are The Charon, 44 Guns, Guadaloupe, 28; Fowey 24, Bonetta 14, and Vulcano 8: The Loyalist 20 Guns, was taken by a French Frigate the day they entered the bay. The Ships have been hauled close to the York shore, and their guns, &c, taken out. The Seamen, Inhabitants & Negroes, are all employed in fortifying York. The works at Gloucester are completed, and a great number of Cannon mounted on them. The whole of both Garrisons are in great spirits; and expecting an attack soon, are preparing to give the Enemy a proper reception.

As there have been several accounts by veſsels arrived here within these few days, of fleets having been seen on the Coast, without its being ascertained whether they are friends or Enemies, there is reason to hope that Admiral Digby may have reached the Coast, and that he will form a junction with Admiral Graves before a general Action takes place. Should he have *only* 6 ships of the line with him, *as is said*, we shall be so superior to the French, that a capital blow to their Navy seems inevitable.

I heard the Commander in Chief say this day, that Admiral Digby had only *3* ships of the line with him, and no troops. But this is not public.

7th Sept^r Fresh wind at S. S. W.

The Prudent is getting ready for Sea with all poſsible expedition.

No account yet from General Arnold.

Came in yeſterday Evening a Ship from Glasgow in 8 weeks, but laſt from Corke in 6 weeks. also this day, a ship from Briſtol in 9 weeks.

8th Se^p: Some rain laſt night, and fresh wind at S. W. Very fine day. Wind N. W.

The Prudent went out of the Eaſt river this day with a fresh wind at N. W.; she went thro' the Narrows about 1 o'Clock, and is to go immediately to Sea, accompanied by the Zebra, to join Admiral Graves.

A person who left Oyſter-pond-point on Thursday Morning the 6th Ins^t says that the troops with General Arnold, arrived off New London the 5th at night, that early the next morning there was a smart firing for some time, and soon after it was over the ships and veſsels appeared to be close in with the Batteries, from which the people in the Neighbourhood of the point conclude that the batteries were silenced and the troops landed. There is no account yet from General Arnold.

The information we have from the Southward is, That Washington & Rochambeau arrived at Philadelphia the 31st Auguſt; that an Embargo had been laid upon all veſsels in that port, and that they had been ordered up the Delaware to Trenton, to take on board the French & Rebel troops which had arrived there, and convey them to Chriſteen Creek, in their way to Virginia. As those troops have not yet moved from Trenton, they cannot get to Virginia until something decisive has happened between the Fleets.

The Regiment Prince Charles is to embark at 9 o'Clock to-Morrow Morning.

Should our fleet beat that of the Enemy so as to gain a decided superiority at Sea, I think The Commander in Chief will sail immediately after receiving information of it, and go up the Delaware; the force he has with him will be of greater service by proceeding directly to Philadelphia, than endeavoring to go up the Chesapeak at this Critical season of the Year. Washington would in that case proceed no farther, and the force with Lord Cornwallis is full sufficient to act againſt Fayette and the troops under his Command.

If we are so fortunate as to gain a Naval Victory it will probably be a very complete one, and will put an end to the Rebellion; for the hopes of the Rebels are placed in the aſsiſtance to be given them by The French fleet, without which the attempt againſt our troops in Virginia could not have been undertaken.

9th Septr Very fine cool day. Wind N. N. E.

The Regiment Prince Charles embarked this Morning.

No account yet from our fleet. 'Tis feared that Admiral Graves in his paſsage to the Chesapeak, has fallen in with The French Squadron under M. de Barras, and chaced them off the Coaſt. If he has beat them and returns in time without being damaged, it is well; but should the fleet and Army acting againſt Lord Cornwallis have time to carry on their operations, and Washington join them before Admiral Graves's return, we run a chance of loosing all by a victory over the inferior Squadron. A day or two muſt bring us some important information.

Captain Beckwith, Aid-de-Camp to General Knyphausen, who went a Volunteer with General Arnold, returned this morning from New-London, with the account of the proceedings of the troops under Arnold's Command. They landed at that place the 6th Inſtant, Stormed all the Enemies Redoubts and batteries, burnt the Stores, and some shipping. The greateſt part of the Shipping however escaped up the River to Norwich.

The particulars of this expedition will be inserted toMorrow or the next day.

10th Septr Very fine day. Wind S.

At 1 o'Clock came in The Lively, 14 Guns, Captain Manley, in 6 weeks from Plymouth, with dispatches for The Commander in Chief; and for Admiral Digby, who sailed 9 days before him, with 3 Ships of the line, and a large frigate, for this port. Admiral Digby is to have the chief command of the fleet on this Station. Prince William Henry is on board with Admiral Digby. The Centurion sailed with a large Convoy for this place at the time Admiral Digby did.

The Lively did not see any of the fleets on the Coaſt.

The anxiety of all ranks of people in this City, from the time

The Lively appeared, 'till it was exactly known from whence she came, but particularly after her people had saluted the Commodore with three cheers as she paſsed, was truly astonishing. It was at first generally imagined she came from Chesapeak, and as an account of Events of the utmost importance is expected from thence, every one entertained the most sanguine hopes of our succeſs in that quarter.

It appears extraordinary that we have heard nothing of our fleet since it sailed from Sandy hook the 1st September.

The wind having been at S. all this day, it has retarded the return of the troops and veſsels with General Arnold. After leaving New London, they went into Gardner's bay, where they remained by the last accounts. As the Seamen, boats, and horse veſsels are much wanted, it being absolutely neceſsary the Seamen should return before the fleet can sail, an Expreſs has been sent to order them to New York as soon as poſsible.

The 22ed Regt is to go on the Expedition in the place of the 54th, which suffered much in Storming Fort-Griswold.

VIII

NEW YORK

VIII

NEW YORK

1781
11th Septr —

Brigadier General Arnold's letter to the Commander in Chief, giving an account of the Expedition to New London.

Sir — Sound. — Off Plumb Island. 8th Sep: 81.

I have the honor to inform your Excellency, that the transports with the detachments of troops under my orders, anchored on the Long Island shore on the 5th Inst at 2 oClock P. M., about 10 leagues from New London, and having made some neceſsary arrangements, weighed anchor at 7 o'Clock. P. M, and Stood for New London with a fair wind. At 1 o'Clock the next Morning we arrived off the harbour, when the wind suddenly shifted to the Northward, and it was 9 o'Clock before the transports could beat in. At 10 o'Clock the troops in two divisions, and in four debarkations were landed; one on each side the harbour about 3 miles from New London. That on the Groton side, consisting of the 40th and 54th Regiments, and the New Jersey Volunteers, with a Detachment of Jagers and Artillery, was under the Command of Lieut Colonel Eyre. The Division on the New London side, consisted of the 38th Regiment, The Loyal Americans, The American Legion, Refugees and a Detachment of 60 Jagers; who were immediately put in motion on their landing, and at 11 oClock being within half a mile of Fort Trumbull, which Commands New London harbour, I detached Captain Millet with 4 Companies of the 38th Regiment to attack the Fort, who was joined on his march by Capt Frink with one Company of The American Legion. At the same time I advanced with the rest of the division West of Fort Trumbull, on the road to the town, to attack a Redoubt which had kept up a brisk fire upon us for some time, but which the Enemy evacuated on our approach. In this work we found 6 pieces of Cannon mounted and 2 dismounted. Soon after I had the pleasure to see Captn Millet march into Fort Trumbull under a Shower of Grape shot, from a number of Cannon, which the

Enemy had turned upon him; and I have the pleasure to inform your Excellency, that by the sudden attack and determined bravery of the troops the Fort was carried with the loſs of only 4 or 5 men killed and wounded. Captain Millet had orders to leave one Company in Fort Trumbull, to detach one to the Fort we had taken, and to join me with the other two Companies. No time was loſt on my part in gaining the town of New London. We were opposed by a small body of the Enemy with one field piece, who were so hard preſsed, that they were obliged to leave the piece, which being Iron, was spiked and left.

As soon as the Enemy were alarmed in the Morning, we could perceive they were busily employed in bending sails, and endeavoring to get their Privateers and other ships up Norwich River, out of our reach, but the wind being small, and the tide againſt them, they were obliged to anchor again.

From information I received before and after my landing, I had reason to believe Fort Griswold, on Groton side, was very incomplete; and I was aſsured (by friends to Government) after my landing that there were only 20, or 30 men in the Fort, the Inhabitants in general being on board their ships and busy in saving their property. On taking poſseſsion of Fort Trumbull, I found the Enemy's ships would escape unleſs we could poſseſs ourselves of Fort Griswold: I therefore dispatched an Officer to Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Eyre with the intelligence I had received, & requeſted him to make an attack on the Fort as soon as possible; at which time I expected the Howitzer was up and would be made use of. On my gaining a height of ground in the rear of New London, from which I had a good prospect of Fort Griswold, I found it much more formidable than I expected, or than I had formed any Idea of from the information I had before received. I observed at the same time that the men who had escaped from Fort Trumbull, had croſsed in boats and thrown themselves into Fort Griswold, and a favorable wind springing up about this time, the Enemy's ships were escaping up the River, notwithſtanding the fire from Fort Trumbull and a Six pounder I had with me. I immediately dispatched a boat with an Officer to Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Eyre to countermand my firſt order to Attack the fort, but the Officer arrived a few minutes too late. Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Eyre had sent Cap^{t} Beckwith with a flag of truce to demand the surrender of the fort, which was peremptorily refused, and the attack had commenced. After a moſt obſtinate defence of near 40 minutes the Fort was carried by the superior bravery and perseverance of the Aſsailants. The attack was judicious and spirited, and reflects the higheſt honor on the Officers and troops, who seemed to vie with each other in being the firſt in danger. The troops approached on three sides of the work, which was a Square with flanks, and made a lodgement in the ditch, and, under a heavy fire which they kept up on the works, effected a second lodgement on the fraizing, which was attended with great difficulty, as only a few pickets could be forced out, or broke, in a place, and was so high that the Soldiers could not ascend without aſsiſting each other. Here the coolneſs and bravery of the troops were very conspicuous, as the firſt who ascended the fraize, were obliged to Silence a 9 pounder which enfiladed the place on which they ſtood, until a sufficient body had collected to enter the work, which was done with fixed bayonets thro' the Embrazures, where they were opposed with great obſtinacy by the Garrison with long spears. On this occasion I have to regret the loſs of Major Montgomery, who was killed by a Spear in entering the Enemy's works: also of Ensign Whillock of the 40th, who was killed in the attack. Three other Officers of the same Regiment were wounded. Lieu^t^ Col° Eyre, and three other Officers of the 54th Regiment were also wounded, but I have the satisfaction to inform Your Excellency that they are all in a fair way to recover.

Lieu^t^ Col° Eyre, who behaved with great gallantry, having received his wound near the work, & Major Montgomery being killed soon after, the Command devolved on Major Bromfield, whose behavior on this occasion does him great honor.

Lieu^t^ Col° Buskirk with the New Jersey Volunteers and Artillery, being the 2^ed^ debarkation, came up soon after the work was carried, having been retarded by the roughneſs of the Country. I am much obliged to this Gentleman for his exertions, altho' the Artillery did not arrive in time.

I have enclosed a return of the killed and wounded, by which Your Excellency will observe that our loſs, tho' very considerable, is very short of the Enemy's, who loſt moſt of their Officers, among whom was their Commander Colonel Ledyard. 85 men were found dead in Fort Griswold, and 60 wounded, moſt of them mortally. Their loſs on the opposite side muſt have been considerable but cannot be ascertained. I believe we have about Seventy prisoners, besides the wounded, who were left paroled.

Ten or twelve of the Enemy's ships were burnt: among them, three or four armed veſsels, and one loaded with Naval Stores. An immense quantity of European and West India goods were found in the stores; among the former the Cargo of The Hannah, Captain Watson, from London, lately captured by the Enemy, the whole of which was burnt, with the stores, which proved to contain a large quantity of powder unknown to us. The explosion of the powder, and change of wind soon after the stores were fired, communicated the flames to part of the town, which was, notwithstanding every effort to prevent it, unfortunately destroyed.

Upwards of 50 pieces of Iron Cannon, were destroyed in the different works (exclusive of the guns of the ships) a particular return of which I cannot do myself the honor to transmit to your Excellency at this time.

A very considerable magazine of powder, and barracks to contain 300 men were found in Fort Griswold, which Captain Le Moine of the Royal Artillery had my positive directions to destroy; an attempt was made by him but unfortunately failed: he had my orders to make a second attempt: the reasons why it was not done, Captain Le Moine will have the honor to explain to Your Excellency.

I should be wanting in justice to the Gentlemen of the Navy, did I omit to acknowledge that upon this expedition, I have received every poſsible aid from them. Captain Bazeley has made every exertion to aſsist our operations; and not only gave up his Cabin to the sick and wounded Officers, but furnished them with every aſsistance and refreshment that his Ship afforded.

Lord Dalrymple will have the honor to deliver my dispatches. I beg leave to refer your Excellency to His Lordship for the particulars of our operations on the New-London side. I feel myself under great obligations to him for his exertions.

Captain Beckwith who was extremely serviceable to me, returns with his Lordship. His spirited conduct in the attack of Fort Griswold does him great honor, being one of the first Officers who entered the works. I beg leave to refer your Excellency to him for the particulars of our operations on that side, and to say, I have the highest opinion of his abilities as an Officer.

I am greatly indebted to Cap^t Stapleton (who acted as Major of brigade) for his spirited conduct and aſsiſtance, in particular on the attack of Fort-Trumbull, and his endeavors to prevent plundering, (when the publick ſtores were burnt) and the deſtruction of private buildings.

The Officers and troops in general behaved with the greateſt intrepidity and firmneſs.

I have the honor to be &c. &c —
BEN^{DT} ARNOLD

Return of Killed, Wounded & Miſsing — 6th September 1781

Corps	Killed			Wounded								Miſs^g	
	Major	Ensign	Serj^{ts}	R & file	L^t Col^o	Cap^{ts}	Lieu^{ts}	Ensigns	Serj^{ts}	Drum^{rs}	R & File	R & file	Total
Detachment Royal Artillery	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Heſsian Jagers	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	5	7
38th Regiment	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	3
40th	1	1	1	28	.	1	1	1	2	1	49	.	86
54th	.	.	1	14	1	1	1	1	6	1	67	.	93
New Jersey Volunteers	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Loyal American Reg^t	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	3
American Legion	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	5	2	9
Total	1	1	2	44	1	3	2	2	8	2	127	8	201

Officers Names —

40th
Major Montgomery } Killed
Ensign Whillock }
Cap^t Craigie }
L^t H. W^m Smyth } Wounded, & since dead
Ens: Hyde }

54th
L^t Col^o Eyre } Thigh
Captain Powell } Jaw
L^t Daunt } Wounded — Knee
Ens: Rainsforth }
Volunteer Boyd } In 4 places.

Am: Legion. Cap^t Wogan — Wounded — Head

Ordnance &c, deſtroyed, 6th Sept^{r} 1781 —
Fort Griswold

Guns	Calibre	Round Shot	Grape	Cartridges filled
8–18 p^{rs}	18 p^{rs}	1680	230	12
17–12 p^{rs}	12	2100	340	23
2– 9 p^{rs}	9	290	75	8
1– 6 p^{r}	6	100	70	4
6– 4 p^{rs}	4	200	90	14
1– 3 p^{r}	3	40	75	6

106 French Musquets
80 Pikes
10,000 Musquet Cartridges
150 Barrels of powder

1–32 p^{r} Carriage
1–12 p^{r} Do.
2–Ammunition Waggons.
1–Gyn Triangle
Laboratory ſtores, &c, &c, &c.

Fort Trumbull —

12–18 p^{rs}
3– 6 p^{rs}

Fort-Folly

8–12 p^{rs}

On The road to New London

1–12 p^{r}

A quantity of Ammunition, Stores, &c, &c, deſtroyed in the Magazine at Fort Trumbull, and in the Meeting house at New London.

N. YORK

1781
11th Sept^{r} — Thick weather. Fresh wind at S. S. W. Some rain in the afternoon.

The Prudent and Zebra did not sail from Sandy hook yeſterday but were to go out this Morning. The Pearl went down early this Morning; 'tis supposed she is going with the dispatches to Admiral Graves.

A Signal at 10 this Morning for two, three, or four Ships of War. It was hauled down in the afternoon. They prove to be the Amazon, 32, Guns, and the Champion, 24, from the Weſt Indies.

Three deserters who came in this day say, that they left the Rebel Army three miles on the other side of the Schylkill on the 1st September, and that they were to continue their march the next day for the head of Elk. It conſiſted of the Jersey brigade, the Congreſs Regiment, a brigade of Rhode Island troops, some New England troops, and a Detachment from the reſt of the

Army; the whole amounting to about 3000 men. The French troops followed them, in a seperate division; and they understood the whole were going to Virginia to act against Lord Cornwallis's Army, which was blocked up at Yorktown by a French fleet, said to be much superior to the British.

12th Sep: Rain till 9 last night, when it cleared up with the wind at N. W. Very fine day. Wind N. N. E.

Some of the veſsels, with 4 Companies of the 40th Regiment, and the wounded men of the Corps under General Arnold, came thro' Hellgate this morning. The wounded men were landed immediately on their arrival in town, and sent to the hospitals. General Arnold also came to town. The rest of the troops remain at Whitestone. Orders were sent to them to proceed as soon as poſsible thro' Hellgate to New York, the American Legion excepted, who are to return to their former quarters at Flushing.

There was a report current in town last night that Admiral Graves had destroyed Six French ships of the line in the Chesapeak. It is certain that some persons who went from hence yesterday in a flag of truce to Elisabeth-town, were suddenly ordered off without being permitted to speak to their friends; which seems to imply that the Rebels had received some unfavorable news.

The Amazon and Champion did not anchor yesterday, but soon after speaking with the Prudent, put to sea in Company with her, and the Zebra.

13th Septr Some rain last night. Rain this morning from 7 till 11. Wind N. N. E. Clear and fair during the remainder of the day. Wind S.

The remainder of The troops that had been in the Sound with General Arnold, came to New York this Morning and were distributed as follows, 38th, 40th, & 54th in New York; Loyal Americans, after landing at the Albany pier, marched to McGowan's paſs: the New Jersey Volunteers went down in the veſsel they were on board of, to their former encampment on Staten Island. The 100 Jagers landed at New-York, and in the afternoon went on board the transports allotted for that Corps, they being part of the Detachment intended to go on the Expedition.

The 22ed Regiment embarked this afternoon on board the Rainham-hall transport in the North River.

A Signal this morning for a Man of war: she did not come up till paſt 4 in the afternoon, and proves to be the Pegasus, Cap^{t} Stanhope from the Southward. Captain Stanhope landed, and having sent the boat back to the Ship, went immediately to Commodore Affleck, who dined 4 miles from town.

Tho' Captain Stanhope would not give us any information respecting the fleets, it was soon afterwards learnt from persons who had been on board the Pegasus, that she came from Admiral Graves's fleet, that as soon as our fleet appeared off Chesapeak, M. de Graſse, who had been joined by M. de Barras, weighed anchor, and came out with 24 sail of the line, leaving a 64 and 3 frigates to continue the blockade of York River. That the two fleets having got near each other a partial action ensued, particularly between the Shrewsbury & Intrepid, and two French ships, that nothing decisive had happened, but that as the fleets continued in sight of each other, a general action was expected.

The Pegasus met the Prudent and the 4 frigates going to join the Admiral, and gave them the neceſsary information.

Captain Stanhope brought letters to the Commadore, but no others.

Should Admiral Digby arrive at this Critical period, we shall be fully equal to the French; and we have every reason to hope, that should a general engagement take place between the fleets, the abilities and courage of our Officers and men, and their ardour to diſtinguish themselves under the eyes of The King's Son in so important a battle, on which it may be said the Sovereignty of the Seas, and the fate of America depends, will ensure us that Victory over our Ancient & perfidious Enemy, which the juſtneſs of our cause, so well deserves.

We certainly are now at the moſt critical period of the war. Should the French gain such an advantage over our fleet as to enable them to continue their Operations unmoleſted againſt Lord Cornwallis, our hopes in that quarter reſt entirely on the firmneſs of him and his troops; on the Contrary should our fleet beat theirs, we have a fair prospect of ending the Rebellion, and at the same time, of giving a severe blow to the Military power of France, by the deſtruction, or Capture of their troops on this Continent.

The Robuſte 74 Guns, is fitting out here as faſt as poſsible, but the ship is altogether in so bad a condition, that she is very unfit for any service of consequence, or to encounter the bad weather, which may soon be expected on this Coaſt.

14th Sep: Very fine weather. Little wind at S —

The transports with troops on board received orders to go down to Staten Island, but the wind being unfavorable, few of them could get down to the watering place. The reſt of them anchored in different parts of the bay.

A Council of war was held this day at Head quarters, where all the General Officers were aſsembled for some hours with the Commander in Chief.

15th Sep: Very thick fog this Morning, which cleared off by 9 o'Clock. Wind S.

The remainder of the transports went down this day, and they are now all aſsembled at the watering place, except those with the British and Heſsian Grenadiers, which are lying off Denyce's. The Amphion is detained in the Sound waiting for a wind to bring her thro Hellgate.

All the General Officers were with The Commander in Chief again this day.

No further account respecting the fleets.

There is good reason to believe from the intelligence that has been received, that the French fleet consiſts of 28 sail of the line, of which number, 4 have been left in Chesapeak to continue the blockade of York River, and to aſsiſt the Rebel Army in their operations againſt Lord Cornwallis.

Mr Washington moved from the head of Elk down the Chesapeak, the 7th Inst so that we may reasonably expect he has arrived in the Neighbourhood of Yorktown by this time. He has about 6,000 men with him. Tis said that de Graſse landed about 1500 French troops in James's River, soon after his arrival in the Chesapeak.

A Packet going home from Charleſtown, was taken by De Graſse's fleet, and carried into Chesapeak: by some letters from Lieut Colo Balfour to Lord George Germaine, taken in that Packet, & published by the Rebels, it appears, that so early as the 2d of July, General Greene received orders to march Northwards, to co-operate with the forces in Virginia againſt Lord Cornwallis.

Lord Rawdon, who was going home on account of his health, was taken in the abovementioned Packet, and 'tis said is now in Philadelphia.

State, and Diſtribution of the Army in the diſtrict of New York. 15th Sept^{r} 1781

Corps	Fit for duty	Sick & Wound^{d}	Effect^{s}	Stations	Corps	F.	S.	E.	Stations
Royal Artillery	359	50	938	New York &c &c	Jagers	775	103	1111	½ Embk^{d} ½ Kingsbridge
17th Dragoons	271	56	388	Fresh Meadows	Linsing	315	71	387	Embarked
1st Grenadiers	461	17	480	Embarked	Lengercké	332	64	397	Embarked
2ed Grenadiers	429	42	471	Embarked	Loewenſtein	309	79	390	Embarked
22ed Regiment	386	35	436	Embarked	Graff	330	68	398	Embarked
37th	388	30	431	Embarked	Du Corps	437	64	502	Embarked
38th	353	92	448	New York	Landgrave..........	474	29	505	New York
40th	244	89	325	New York	Prince Charles	471	35	507	Embarked
42ed	568	71	643	Embarked	Donop	424	67	492	Kingsbridge
54th	291	129	424	New York	Losberg	454	37	495	Kingsbridge
57th	332	66	407	Flagſtaff S. I^{d}	Knyphausen	251	164	420	New York
3rd Delancey's	258	66	359	Jamaica	Bunau	393	115	503	New York
1st New Jers: Vol^{rs}	242	51	398	Richmond S. I^{d}	Heſse Hanau	553	129	682	Brooklyn
3rd D^{o}	211	35	399	Flagſtaff	Anhalt Zerbſt	294	94	388	Paulus hook
Loyal Americans	133	78	293	McGowan's	Brunswickers	116	29	146	Paulus hook
Guides & Pioneers ...	92	10	177	Horn's-hook	Waldeckers	131	...	...	Newtown
King's Amer: Dra^{gs}	128	35	163	Jamaica	Heſse Han: Jagers ..	...	...	...	Wallabought
Amer: Legion........	175	50	229	Flushing	Artillery	...	...	...	Detached with each Corps

N. B. 69th Reg^{t} On board }
The Fleet at Sea }

From the above orders to Greene there is no doubt but the attack of the Army under Lord Cornwallis was the great object of the Campaign on the part of the Enemy, and that they have made every exertion to collect a large force for this operation.

It is not yet known to us, on what day M. de Barras, joined de Graſse. When de Graſse quitted the Chesapeak to receive the attack of the British fleet, his ships slipped their Cables and left Buoys upon their Anchors. The Medea Captain Duncan, and the Iris Captain Dawson having observed these buoys, run in and cut them all away.

The anxiety of all ranks of people here at present is very great. Every thing depends on the event of the Action which is likely to happen between the fleets. Should our fleet be defeated the loſs of the whole army under Lord Cornwallis is much to be dreaded, the consequence of which would be that we could no longer attempt to prosecute the war against the Rebels, and must neceſsarily admit their claim of Independence: on the contrary, should our fleet be succeſsful, & gain a decisive victory over that of France, we have a prospect of defeating the united forces opposed to Lord Cornwallis, and thereby putting an end to the Rebellion, for in that case I am convinced the Rebels could never aſsemble another Army. It is feared that de Graſse, tho' superior, will not risk a general action, nor give our fleet an opportunity of forcing him to it. He probably will endeavor to draw our fleet from the Coast, to give time to Washington to push his operations against Lord Cornwallis.

16th Sept: Very fine weather. Wind S. S. W.

The Robuste went off from the Dock yard this morning, and anchored in the East River.

Came in a Brig from Rhode Island to Philadelphia, taken by one of our Cruizers.

A Boston Paper brought in this day mentions the Capture of The Magicienne, a French frigate of 40 Guns, on the 1st Instant off Boston, by The Aſsurance of 44 Guns, Captain Swiney, after an hours engagement.

17th Septr Clear morning. Wind N. E. Sudden change of weather after 12 o'Clock, wind E. with heavy clouds and every appearance of a gale of wind.

The Amphion, Beaumont, and Recovery, came thro' Hellgate, this Morning and anchored off the Dock yard. Those ships had been with the Expedition against New-London, and have been waiting some days in the Sound for a wind to bring them to N. York.

The Robuste, and Amphion went into the North River this afternoon.

An Armed boat arrived this Morning from Chesapeak, with a letter from Lord Cornwallis dated the 8th, at which time every thing was going on well at Yorktown. The Army was encamped in a strong position without side of the works, and were under no apprehensions. The troops were healthy and in great spirits. There had been no junction of the Enemy's troops. A 74, 2 64's, and a frigate had been in York River, but on the 6th, the 74 went down, and was followed the next day by the others, which anchored near the Middle ground. Seven or 8 ships were seen the 7th at anchor within the Capes. About 3500 French troops had been landed in James's River from the French fleet. Lord Cornwallis had received no intelligence from this place since the French fleet first appeared. The Master of the boat which brought Lord Cornwallis's letter, could not get clear of the Capes until the 12th, and that Morning, he saw a large fleet at a great distance standing for the Chesapeak. Off the Delaware he was Chaced by three frigates.

18th Sep: Fresh wind at E. from 11 last night, which encreased much during the night, and it blew very hard at 10 this Morning. Heavy clouds and some rain. At 11 it began to moderate and clear up, soon after which the wind shifted to the S. E. The wind much fallen at 12, and the remainder of the day clear & warm. Wind S. W at 3 oClock; N. W. at 5, and quite calm at night.

Came in last night The Fortunée, 40 Guns, Captain Christian, from Admiral Graves's fleet. The accounts she brings are not very favorable, and in substance are, that the French fleet is returned into the Chesapeak without attempting to come to a second engagement; that several ships on both sides were pretty roughly handled in the partial action which happened on the 5th Instant; that The Terrible 74 Guns Captain Finch, was so leaky and out of repair, that it was found neceſsary to dismantle and then burn her; that the lower Masts of some of the ships have been much wounded, and that Admiral Graves is returning with the fleet to this port, in order to refit and wait for Reinforcements.

The French fleet being now so superior as to preclude all thoughts of attempting a direct relief of Lord Cornwallis, it appears that nothing can be done until Admiral Digby arrives, and that we muſt relie on the abilities and firmness of that General and his Army, for maintaining themselves againſt the United force opposed to them.

If our fleet was at all able to keep the Sea, or dare venture to appear off the Chesapeak, something should be attempted againſt that of the Enemy, by means of fireships; if the attempt failed we could only lose the veſsels employed as such.

As the fleet is returning, it is probable the Commander in Chief will disembark the troops now on board the transports. Nothing can now be done by him for the relief of Lord Cornwallis, unleſs it is by making a Sudden movement into Jersey, with all the force we can collect, and marching directly to Philadelphia. An enterprize of this kind would throw the Rebels into the utmoſt conſternation, and poſsibly make an important diversion in favor of our besieged Army.

As the fleet from England with Recruits, Clothing, Camp Equipage, &c &c, under convoy of the Centurion 50 Guns, and one or two frigates, sailed about the time Admiral Digby did, and may be daily expected on the coaſt, there is great reason to be alarmed for its safety, especially if the French should send out a small squadron of their beſt ships to cruize for them. As Admiral Graves knows that the abovementioned fleet, and Admiral Digby, may be daily looked for on the Coaſt, he may perhaps cruize for a few days in the proper ſtation to cover their safe arrival in this port, which is of the greateſt consequence.

19th Septr Very fine day. Clear and pleasant. Wind W. Warm in the afternoon.

At 8 this morning Signals were made on Staten Island for a fleet of Merchant ships, with 3 or 4 Men of war: it was immediately concluded that this was the Centurion and her Convoy; but about 10 oClock the Jane Sloop of War, 14 Guns, Captain Knight came up to town, by whom we learnt that the fleet in sight was that under Admiral Graves; which was soon after signified from the Flagſtaff, by the Signal's being changed to that for a Fleet of Men of war. The Signal was continued up till night.

Orders were given this Morning for the whole of the troops now embarked, to be landed on Staten Island toMorrow, and to encamp there. The transports in which the troops are now embarked, are to go down to Sandy hook the moment the troops are landed, with water for the fleet. Some of the transports from Denyce's came up to Cole's ferry this Evening.

All the Shipwrights and Carpenters belonging to the Dock yard, are now very busy in making yards and top Maſts for the fleet; A good many of which will be wanted.

I fear the fate of the Army in Virginia will be determined before our fleet can get out of this harbour again, in a condition to force that of the Enemy.

20th Sept^{r} Fresh wind at N. laſt night and till 10 this Morning. Great change of weather during the night. The Thermometer 20 degrees lower at 6 this Morning than at 10 laſt night. Wind E. during the day, with rain, and very cold.

The troops did not disembark this day on account of the swell at Staten Island, and the badness of the weather.

Some of the Ships of the line came over the bar laſt Evening, and others this Morning. The Commander in Chief has some intention of making a push at Philadelphia, as a number of Corps, whose fit for duty amount to about 8000 men, are named by him for service, and a Diſtribution of those which remain is made out, specifying the poſts they are to occupy.

If upon consultation with Admiral Graves it is found that the fleet will be ready for action in Eight days, and, if reinforced as expected, will endeavor to attack the Enemy's fleet in the Chesapeak, I think it would be very improper to undertake anything seperate, with the Army, which, if our fleet forces that of the Enemy, will be absolutely neceſsary for the complete relief of Lord Cornwallis; but if the Admiral cannot move from hence within 14 days, which is generally supposed, it is incumbent on The Commander in Chief to make some diversion in favor of Lord Cornwallis. Should he remain here for that time without undertaking something, he will be blamed by every one, let the matter end as it may; and it will be said that he remained an unconcerned spectator of the fate of that Army, with 11,000 fighting men equal to any enterprize, while the Enemy had nothing between the Hudson and the Chesapeak to oppose him.

I am of opinion the undermentioned Corps are fitteſt for this service —

17th Dragoons	250	520	Cavalry
Jagers	140		
King's Amer: Dra^{gs}	50		
American Legion	50		
Mounted Light Inf^{y}	30		
British Grenadiers	890	2170	Infantry
Heſsian Grenadiers	1280		
Jagers, Infantry		600	
22ed	380	1110	
37th	380		
38th	350		
42ed	560	1180	
54th	290		
57th	330		
Du Corps	430	1370	
Landgrave	470		
Prince Charles	470		
Donop	420	870	
Loſsberg	450		
New Jersey Volunteers	400	560	
American Legion	100		
Guides & Pioneers	60		
British Artillery	150	300	Artillery
German D^{o}	150		
Total		8680	

Disposition of the Troops remaining

40th Reg^{t}	300	940	New York.
Bunau	390		
Knyphausen	250		
69th	500	1050	Kingsbridge
Heſse Hanau	550		
Loyal Ame^{rs}		170	McGowan's
Guides & Pion^{rs}		30	Horn's hook
Anhalt Zerbſt	290	400	Paulus hook
Brunswickers	110		
3rd Delanceys		250	Jamaica
King's Am: Dra^{gs}		70	Flushing
Gar^{n} Batt^{n}	120	150	Brooklyn
Heſse Han: Jagers	30		
Waldeckers		120	Hallet's Cove
Virginia detach^{ts}	400	550	Staten Island
S^{o} Cara D^{o}	150		
British Artill^{y}		200	At different poſts
Refugees		400	Weſt-Cheſter
		400	Lloyd's Neck
		300	Bergen Neck
		200	Richmond
Total		5230	

	Ships, &c
2 Frigates 1 Galley 2 Gunboats	North River
1 Frigate 2 Sloops	In the Sound
1 Galley	Haerlem Creek
4 Armed veſsels	Newark bay.
1 Frigate 1 Galley	Mouth of the Rariton

N. B. The veſsels in the North River to move their Stations frequently.

The Rebels have about 3000 men on the banks of The Hudson, but they are chiefly stationed in their Garrisons in the Highlands, from whence they dare not move any considerable number of them. They have also a few troops in Jersey, about Chatham, Elisabethtown, & other places in that Neighbourhood; perhaps 600 in all; so that they could not aſsemble above 2000 men with thier greatest exertions, to oppose our movement towards Philadelphia.

If The Commander in Chief entered Jersey with 8000 men, the force remaining for the defence of New York, and the posts depending, would be quite sufficient to secure them from any attempts of the Rebels, should they be inclined to make them.

As the succeſs of the enterprize would depend principally on the quickness of its execution, The Corps intended for it should be the best in this Army, & should move without tents, baggage, or any incumbrances but such as are absolutely neceſsary to contribute towards its succeſs. A proper train of light field Artillery, under the Command of an Officer who is not apt to make difficulties, the Pontons, provisions for Eight days, (the Country would supply as much more) and as many Cavalry as poſsible, should attend this Corps. The whole to be landed as soon as poſsible at Amboy, and proceed by forced marches to Trenton in order to secure the paſsage of the Delaware: from thence without delay to Philadelphia. Some frigates should go up the Delaware to co-operate with the Army. All boats and craft of every kind found in the Delaware, should be secured, and go down the River as the Army moved.

As it would be neceſsary to leave a strong Detachment at Trenton for the security of the paſsage of the River there, more than 8000 troops should be taken, and they might easily be spared, when it is considered, that if the Army marched towards Philadelphia, the greatest part of the fleet might be stationed in such a manner as to give great security to our posts near New York. The Volunteer Companies, and Militia of New York and Long Island, should be embodied and aſsembled on this occasion, which would give us strength, and be a proof of their Loyalty and attachment to Government.

As the Militia of Jersey have been considered as formidable, from their perfect knowledge of the Country, and their constantly harraſsing the flanks and rear of any Corps that enters the Province, I think it would have a good effect if previous to, or on, the day the Army entered Jersey, The Commander in Chief was to iſsue and disperse a Proclamation or Manifeſto, ſtating to the Inhabitants of that Province, that as he was determined to march through it, and was not come to attack them, any Militia Man, or other person who was not enrolled in a Continental or State Regiment, and was taken in Arms without a Uniform, should be treated as Banditti, and not be considered as Soldiers: that if on the contrary the Inhabitants would remain peaceably in their houses, the moſt exact discipline should be observed, (and it should be, moſt ſtrictly) and their persons, houses, and property secured from insult or deſtruction. That Should they, notwithſtanding disregard this declaration, and, as had been usual, fire upon the Army or its detachments during the march, intercept small parties, or commit any other hoſtilities, he was determined to take the moſt examplary vengeance, and lay waſte the whole country within reach of his Army.

The troops now encamped on Staten Island, should be Brigaded as follows—

British Grenadiers	Major Gen^{l} Paterson	L^{t} Gen^{l} Leslie
Heſsian Grenadiers	Major Gen^{l} Kospoth	
22ed 37th 42ed	Brig^{r} Gen^{l} Lord Lincoln	
Du Corps Prince Charles	Major General Wurmb	
Jagers	Lieu^{t} Colonel Wurmb	

If the Inhabitants however should persiſt in harraſsing the Army, I think The Commander in Chief would be juſtifiable in giving orders to the troops to take no prisoners who were not in Uniforms, and to burn and deſtroy the Country as much as lay in their power. A Severe example made of the firſt party of Militia who opposed the troops, would ſtrike a terror into the others, and moſt probably have the desired effect.

21st Sept^{r} — Cold weather. Fresh wind at N. —

The troops landed on Staten Island this day, and encamped in two lines on the heights above the watering place.

The laſt of the line of Battle Ships got over the bar this day, and anchored within the Hook. The Fortunée, and Santa Monica, came up, and anchored off Governor's Island. The latter has sprung the head of her Main top Maſt, and the former wants repairs of some kind.

If the Admiral will not engage to endeavor in a short time to force the Chesapeak, The Commander in Chief will certainly make some diversion by land in favor of Lord Cornwallis.

The fate of America in a great measure depends upon our operations at this time. With 20 sail of the line, besides several 50's and 44's, something should be attempted by Sea, which is the only effectual way of raising the Siege. Should Admiral Digby, and the other ships that are expected, arrive within 6 or 8 days, there can be no doubt about this matter.

The French fleet having returned into The Chesapeak, the operations againſt Lord Cornwallis will now be carried on without interruption. It is probable that M^r Washington has arrived with his troops about this time in the neighbourhood of York. As the Rebels have a great force aſsembled they will certainly proceed by regular siege.

Lord Cornwallis is but ill provided with large Guns, and the works he has been able to erect in so short a space of time, are very unfit to reſiſt the effect of the heavy Artillery that will be brought againſt them.

Every exertion that Men are capable of may, however be expected from the greateſt part of that Army; Should they fall, it will be in a manner worthy of themselves. If the Enemy should deſtroy the works by the fire of their Artillery, they will be very cautious how they aſsault such an Army: so that by this means we may have more time to effect their relief.

'Tis said the Richmond and Iris, are gone to Chesapeak to attempt effecting an entrance into York River, by means of a Channel little known and not guarded. If they succeed they will give great ſtrength to the Garrison of York.

One Main Maſt, and many Yards and top Maſts are wanting for our fleet; they are working very hard at them in the Dock yard, & 'tis said the fleet will not be delayed on their account. The water on board The transports is to be given to the Men of war, and thier empty Casks taken by the transports.

As The French fleet muſt be supposed to ſtand in need of the like repairs, we certainly have a great advantage over them in this respect, as they can get but very little aſsiſtance in the Chesapeak.

A flag of truce came in this day from Boſton. By some persons exchanged we learn, that The Magicienne was taken by The Chatham; also that The Newfoundland Squadron under Admiral Edwards had gone into the Gulph of S^t^ Lawrence in pursuit of a number of Rebel privateers that had aſsembled there to intercept the fleet bound to Quebec, and that he had taken and deſtroyed about 20 of them, particularly The Congress, a Rebel Frigate of 28 Guns.

22^ed^ Sept^r^ — Very cold weather for the Season. Wind N.

This being the Anniversary of The King's Coronation, 21 Guns were fired at 12 oClock from the lower battery; and at 1 o'Clock the Ships in the harbour fired 21 Guns each.

Some of the frigates came up from Sandy hook, and anchored off Governor's Island.

A ſtriking inſtance of the want of discipline in the British service is now to be seen here. Altho' the troops embarked the 6th September, and transports were allotted for the reception of the Generals, no British General embarked with them; and tho' they landed yeſterday on Staten Island, where there is now a body of above 6,000 men, no British General Officer is yet with them. Major General Paterson tho' particularly appointed to Command the British Grenadiers, has remained at Brooklyn ever since they embarked: Lord Lincoln who commands the Brigade of British Infantry, has been in New York the whole time: and General Leslie is also here. None of them appear to have the leaſt intention of going down to the troops.

Major Generals Kospoth & Wurmb embarked with the Heſsian troops, and have continued with them the whole time. What a contraſt! Our Generals & Admirals don't seem to be in earneſt about this busineſs.

23^rd^ Sept^r^— Very fine weather. Wind W.

The fleet came up from Sandy hook this Morning. Admiral Hood's division anchored at the Watering place, Staten Island; all the reſt came up to New York, and anchored in the North River. Immediately after anchoring the ships began to unbend their sails, and to lower their Yards and topmaſts, to repair.

'Tis the general opinion that the fleet will not be ready for Sea in leſs than ten days. I think if great exertions were made they might be ready in Six days. Their new yards & top Maſts are very near ready. Water should be sent to them from the shore, without employing their own men in that service. For this purpose a Number of Negroes might be aſsembled to fill the casks, and roll them to the water side, and all the small veſsels in the harbour should be employed in carrying it alongside the Ships.

Washington's Route from The heights of Chatham in Jersey, to Williamsburgh in Virginia — 1781 —

29th Augt From Chatham.	Miles.
To Brunswick	10
Princetown	17
Trenton	13
Bristol	10
Frankfort	15
Philadelphia	5
Lower Ferry	4
Derby	3
Chester	9
Brandywine	14
Newcastle	6
Elk River	17
North East	7
Susquehanna	9
Gunpowder Ferry	25
Patapsco Ferry	20
Annapolis	30
Queen Ann's Ferry	13
Upper Marlborough	9
Piscataqua	15
Port Tobacco	15
	266

Brought over	266
N. Ferry	10
Port Royal	15
Meads Tavern	12
Todsbridge	20
Claybourne bridge	24
Treneau's	12
Williamsburgh	16
Total	375

Left Chatham 29thAugt
Croſsed Delaware .... 2ed Septr
Arrived at Williamsburgh. Sepr 18.

Every ship Carpenter, Caulker, & Rigger in town, and all those belonging to the ships in this port, should be obliged to work on the ships on this emergency, that no time might be lost in refitting them for action.

The Officers of the Navy say that after all, the large ships (London, Barfleur & Princeſsa) cannot get over the bar till the next spring tides. The full Moon is not till the 2ed Octr. The highest water the 3rd or 4th.

Came in this afternoon an expreſs veſsel from Lord Cornwallis. She left York the 17th and the Capes the 18th. The substance of the information by her is, that The French fleet now in Chesapeak consists of 36 sail of the line; that the Squadron under M. de Barras joined de Graſse the 7th — That two ships of the line and a frigate lie at the mouth of York River — That three or four line of battle ships, with several frigates and transports went up the bay a few days before, supposed to bring down the troops under Washington, which had arrived at the head of Elk. The troops at York were in great health & spirits, the place was fortified as well as circumstances would admit, and all the heavy guns they had were mounted. 'Tis said the Richmond, Iris, Carysfort, and Hornet, have been taken by the French — also that the Savage has been taken by a Rebel frigate.

The following is the only account of the action on the 5th September between the British and French fleets off the Capes of Virginia, which has been published, of any authority. —

"The first certain notice our Admiral received of the Enemy's fleet being actually upon the Coast, was from the advanced ships of the fleet on the Morning of that day, when the French fleet were seen at anchor, extending from Cape Henry to the center of the Middle ground (a shoal so called which confines the entrance into the Chesapeak) apparently in three divisions.

As the British fleet advanced with a fair wind, the French got their ships under sail, and extending themselves in a line of battle ahead, stretched out to Seaward.

The British run down upon an E. & W. line, with the wind at N. N. E., formed, and put themselves into order and preparation for battle.

As the British advanced towards the shoal of the Middle, they were prepared to veer by signal the whole fleet together to bring them upon the same tack with the Enemy, who were all this time forming thier line as they advanced to Sea.

The moment it was no longer safe for the British fleet to advance further on account of the Shoal, the Fleet wore together, came to the same tack with the French, and formed a line ahead nearly parralel to them, with their Main topsails square, to let the Enemy's Van-guard advance until the British could operate to advantage.

The French came forward slowly, and shewed 24 large ships in their line of battle: the British formed 19 in theirs.

It would be needleſs to give a detail of signals: A great number were made, and I believe all that were neceſsary to prepare the British fleet for an united effort.

The French Van had extended themselves considerably too much from their own Center, and seemed to present the favorable moment for an attack.

The British line had been continually preſsed down to approach the Enemy as near as poſsible, and the moment the French Van betrayed their apprehensions of our design by bearing away, the Signal for a close action was made, and the signal for the line taken down, that nothing might croſs the opportunity.

The Action began a quarter after 4, about the fourth or fifth ship, and in a few minutes extended from the Van to the Second ship aſtern of the Center. Rear Admiral Drake's division composed the Van of the British line, Rear Admiral Sir Samuel Hood's that of the rear.

The Action in the Van was very close and sharp for some time, and continued so until the French ships put before the wind to prevent being cut up.

The French center and rear pushed forward, and kept much from the wind as they approached the British Center, and appeared to have little more in view than to advance far enough to receive their own Van, who were going nearly before the wind; and the better to effect this purpose, they conſtantly declined close action with the center of our fleet.

Every neceſsary signal was made to urge a close, as well as a general action, which the Enemy appeared as much to decline, and did not permit our rear to close with them, which prevented that part of our fleet from having any share in the action.

All firing ceased on both sides soon after Sunset. About 10 o'Clock it was made known to the Admiral by two frigates which had been sent throughout the line, that several ships of the Van were not capable of keeping extended with the Enemy, having suffered so much in their Maſts and rigging they muſt attend to their security or be dismaſted: that two of the ships which came very leaky from the Weſt-Indies had aggravated their complaints, and one of them could only be kept free with all her pumps.

The two fleets remained near each other for five succeſsive days, at times very close. The Enemy it was visible had received much damage to their Van ships, and from thence quite on to the next head of the Admiral's ship; but our maſts and yards had suffered much more apparently. This enabled the French to gain the wind of us, and two changes of wind much in their favor, prevented our recovering it. No time or effort was neglected which could put the British ships in proper order; for the French with their superiority of numbers ought to have attacked us.

On the 10th the Terrible could no longer resiſt her leaks, and the fleet was obliged to bring to, as well as to give time to shift some top Maſts. This was done at night, and the next morning we saw no more of the Enemy; who certainly pushed to regain the Chesapeak, having been driven a great way to the Southward. This day being calm, The Terrible was dismantled, and set on fire, and several of the Weſt India Squadron that had very little bread on board, and but a few days water, were supplied from other ships of the fleet, and the whole moved towards Cape Henry, which we made on the 14th, and finding the French fleet had placed themselves so advantageously between the sands, as to give no probability of our being able to force them, or get any succour up to York River, it became absolutely necessary to shelter the fleet before the approaching Equinox, as a gale of wind by dismantling our ships, might do us more injury than a general action. The fleet therefore returned to New York.

We loſt in the action one Lieutenant and 90 men killed, and 246 wounded: One Captain having loſt a leg —
20th September 1781." —

24th Septr — Very fine weather. Wind S. W —

Admiral Graves Came on shore this day, and was saluted with guns.

The principal General Officers were aſsembled with the Commander in Chief this day. Tis supposed they were consulted respecting the part to be taken by the Army towards effecting the relief of Lord Cornwallis.

The great superiority of the French fleet, which certainly consiſts of 35 or 36 sail of the line, renders it almoſt impoſsible for us to undertake anything until the arrival of a considerable reinforcement. The safe arrival of the Convoy under the Centurion is now become a matter of very great importance. The Navy are short of bread and other ſtores. There is but one lower Mast for a 74 in the Yard, and that is preparing for the Shrewsbury.

It may be expected that as soon as The French are fit for Sea, they will cruize off this port with a fleet superior to ours, while their crippled ships continue the blockade of Yorktown.

List of The French fleet, as published by the Rebels

Ville de Paris	110
Languedoc	84
Auguste	84
Duc de Bourgogne	84
St Esprit	84
Glorieux	74
Destin	74
Sceptre	74
Marseillois	74
Diadame	74
Northumberland	74
Bourgogne	74
Zele	74
Triton	74
Ceasar	74
Victoire	74
Souveraine	74
Palmier	74
Hector	74
Citoien	74
Scorpion	74
Magnanime	74
Hercule	74
Pluton	74
Neptune	74
Conquerant	74
Valient	64
Reflechi	64
Solitaire	64
Caton	64
Provence	64
Eviellé	64
Jason	64
Ardent	64
Fantasque	64
Experiment	50
Romulus	44
Adamant	50
Warwick	50

We have to oppose to them

London	90
Barfleur	90
Prince George	90
Princeſsa	74
Bedford	74
Canada	74
Ajax	74
Shrewsbury	74
Robuste	74
Resolution	74
Royal Oak	74
Centaur	74
Alcide	74
Alfred	74
Monarch	74
Montague	74
Invincible	74
Intrepid	64
Prudent	64
Belliqueux	64
Europe	64
Lion	64
America	64

Torbay	64	Expected
Prince William	64	
Centurion	50	

The French have now with them some of the ships that were employed with the Spaniards at the siege of Pensacola.

At 2 oClock this day came in The Perseverence 38 Guns Captain Lutwytche, from England. She parted with Admiral Digby 30 leagues off the Coaſt; he had with him The Prince George, 90, Canada 74, Lion 64, and a frigate. At 4 the signal was made for more than one and under five Men of war supposed to be the above ships. If so, it is fortunate that Admiral Digby has got in without being intercepted. Prince William Henry, The King's third Son, is on board The Prince George. 'Tis said, there are three ships of the line, besides the Centurion, with the Convoy from England: Should they get in before the French are fit for Sea, we may poſsibly attempt something worthy of our former name.

The Prince William & Torbay, are expected from Jamaica.

25th Sept^r — Warm day. Fresh wind at W.

Admiral Digby arrived laſt night, and got over the bar with the Prince George, Canada, and Lion, and a frigate. They anchored at Sandy hook, as the wind was unfavorable for coming up.

Prince William Henry is serving as a Midshipman on board The Prince George.

The Artificers in the Dock yard are hard at work in refitting the ships. They work from day light till near 10 at night: and the Shipwrights and principal Artificers receive 3 dollars (14s/- Shillings Sterling) per day for their labour.

A Number of fireships are ordered to be prepared immediately. Some of the worſt of the transports are taken for this purpose.

26th — Very fine day. Fresh wind at W.

Admiral Digby, and The Prince, came up in The Lively, Captain Manley, and landed at 6 oClock this Evening behind Head Quarters, from whence they proceeded to the house appointed for the reception of the Admiral in Hanover Square, where he was received by a Captain's Guard, and was waited upon by The Commander in Chief, and moſt of The General Officers; and Public Officers of The Army.

The Prince was saluted with 21 Guns on his landing. Brigadier General Birch has given up his house for his accomodation.

At 2 oClock this day, a Signal for some Men of war, which proved to be The Warwick 50 Guns, and the Pearl, from the Northward.

27th Septr Very fine day, but warm. Wind W:

The Prince George 90 Guns, Canada 74, Lion 64, and Pearl 32, came thro' the Narrows this afternoon. The Prince George and Pearl came up and anchored in the North River off the town; the others anchored at Staten Island.

The Commander in Chief waited on Prince William at 1 o'Clock, and walked with him as far as Buncker's hill Redoubt. The Prince walked along the front of the Regiment of Bunau, which was under arms, and saluted him. His Higneſs also saw the 38th Regiment on their march out of town to encamp near Greenwich.

The troops to Embark are —

	Rank & file		
Jagers	400	Lt Colo Wurmb	Lieut Genl Leslie
1st Grenadiers	430	Majr Gen: Paterson	
2td Grenadiers	410		
Linsing	310	Majr Gen: Kospoth	
Lengercké	330		
Loewenstein	300		
Graff	330		
22ed	340	Brigr Gen: Ld Lincoln	
37eh	380		
42ed	510		
Du Corps	430	Majr Gen: Wurmb	
Prince Charles	470		
Virginia Detachts	400		
Detachts British German Artillery	200		
	5240		

The Prince returned to The Commander in Chief's, where he dined, and where there was a concert in the Evening. The graceful appearance and manner of The Prince, with his livelineſs & affability gives universal satisfaction.

The respective Commanders in Chief, after having consulted with the other Generals and Admirals, have come to a resolution to embark about 5000 troops on board the Ships of war, the moment they are fit for Sea, and proceed immediately to the Chesapeak, for the purpose of relieving Lord Cornwallis.

As the French are much superior in number of Ships, several transports are converting into fireships which are to be made use of in case the Enemy are found within the Capes. Should they come out to meet the fleet, ours is to endeavour to push a Squadron in for the relief of Yorktown. At any rate indeed it seems to be determined to relieve our Army there, by one united and spirited effort. Should the enterprize be well conducted, the blow will probably be decisive.

Altho' the Navy are now hard at work in refitting the ships, and are preparing every thing for Sea with great diligence, yet I greatly fear that something decisive will take place against Lord Cornwallis before we can poſsibly be ready to go from hence. The Officers of the Navy say they will be ready by the 5th October; but when it is seen, that the Montague has a Main Mast to get in, another a Bowsprit to be fished, most of them either Yards or top Masts to get up, and several of them much to do about their rigging, I think I may venture to say they will not all be ready to go down to Sandy hook by the 10th — After that we may allow three days before the ships are all fairly over the bar, and Seven days more before anything can be effected for the relief of Lord Cornwallis. The Enemy, who are certainly well informed of our situation, and know how forward we are with our fleet, will doubtleſs make ever poſsible effort to effect the reduction of the post at Yorktown, before we are in a condition to attempt relieving it.

The Arrangement at present is —
Each Corps to be put on board two of the line of Battle ships; the order of Battle of the Army, corresponding as much as poſsible with the Line of Battle of the Navy.

The Generals to go on board line of battle ships, or Frigates. None but ships of war, and fire ships to go. Every thing wanting to be carried by The ships of war. The Battalion guns to be taken on board with the troops, and mens harneſs to be taken with them. No Camp Equipage, horses, women, or baggage to be taken. The baggage of each Corps to be collected on board one of the transports which have been allotted them; and that of the Generals, on board a transport; which ships are to be ready to proceed after the Fleet and Army, when ordered.

The troops to carry 60 rounds, & 3 flints pr man. Three Months provisions for 17,000 men to be taken on board the ships of war.

This quantity of Provision amounts to
5100 barrels of Pork.
6120 barrels of flour
663 puncheons of Rum

If the force of the French fleet is really as great as we are informed it is, and they are in a condition to keep the Sea with a fleet equal to ours, I should not be surprized to see them cruize off this port very shortly, while a Squadron was left in Chesapeak to aſsist in the siege of Yorktown. By this means they would prevent our fleet from getting out, and intercept all ships bound for this port. The Centurion with her Convoy from England, and The Torbay & Prince William from Jamaica may be hourly expected.

An armed boat went off this night with letters in Cypher from The Commander in Chief to Lord Cornwallis. This boat rows 14 Oars, and carries 16 men, with 4 Swivels, besides Small Arms. She is built like a Whaleboat, is quite open, and is rigged with two latine sails. She has already been three times between Chesapeak and New York; twice since the French fleet has been in the bay. During her last paſsage to this place, she was obliged to anchor for 62 hours in the open Sea, during a gale of wind that blew on shore.

28th Sept^{r} Some rain last night about 10 o'Clock — Fair day; but warm. Wind W.

Part of the 69th Regiment landed this day from on board the ships at Staten Island.

Strength of the Army, in the Action at the Eutaws. 8th Se^{p} 1781

Corps	Lieu^{t} Col^{os}	Majors	Captains	Subalterns	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & file	Total
Cavalry	.	1	3	5	11	3	47	70
Flank Comp^{s} of 3rd, 19th, & 30th	.	2	5	11	12	12	239	281
3rd Regiment	1	1	3	10	16	4	306	340
63rd	.	.	2	5	10	.	79	96
64th	.	.	2	6	13	8	151	180
84th Detachment	.	.	1	2	8	2	69	82
New York Volunteers. Infantry	.	1	.	2	4	4	36	47
New Jersey Volunteers	1	.	2	4	9	.	50	66
1st Delancey's	1	.	3	2	9	3	55	73
Provincial Light Infantry	.	.	3	7	5	3	90	108
Artillery, with Additionals	.	.	.	.	6	.	47	53
Total	3	5	24	54	103	39	1169	1396

N.B. Commanded by Lieu^{t} Colonel Stewart, 3rd Reg^{t}.

Prince William received the Compliments of the Officers of the Army this day at 10 o'Clock, of the Navy immediately after, and of the Governor and Council, after the Navy. He then went to the Parade, and after the guards had marched off, drove out in the Commander in Chief's Phaeton with Admiral Digby, attended by several of The Commander in Chief's Aides-de-Camp. He dined with General Robertson.

There is a report in town from Philadelphia, that Lord Cornwallis had attacked a Corps of French and Rebels under Fayette, of which he had killed 200, and taken 500 prisoners.

29th Septr Rain from 4 this Morning 'till 11. Wind N. N. E. It ceased raining after 11 oClock, but the reſt of the day was thick and Cloudy.

The Duke of Cumberland Packet went down this day. Lieut Colo Conway of the Guards, Lt Colo Dickson of the 16th, and several other Officers went home in her. The Pearl is to see her 100 leagues off the Coaſt.

The Remainder of the 69th Regiment landed this day from the ships of war in the North River.

30th Septr — Fine cool weather. Fresh wind at N. W. The Packet sailed laſt night or this Morning, in company with the Pearl.

Return of the Killed, Wounded & Miſsing, at the Eutaws. 8th Sep: 1781

Corps	Killed				Wounded							Miſsing						Total
	Lieut	Serjt	Drs	R & F.	Majr	Capt	Lt	Ens:	Serjt	Dr	R & f.	Capt	Lt	Ens:	Serjt	Dr	R & F.	
Cavalry	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	1	1	.	8	.	.	.	.	.	18	30
Flank Battalion	1	.	.	12	.	.	2	.	5	2	81	.	.	.	.	3	.	106
3rd Regt	1	1	1	27	1	.	.	.	3	.	74	.	1	.	2	1	70	182
63rd	.	2	.	6	.	.	2	1	1	.	33	1	1	.	.	.	20	67
64th	.	2	.	10	.	.	2	.	3	.	47	1	.	1	7	.	47	120
84th	.	.	.	6	.	1	.	.	.	.	22	.	.	.	.	.	2	31
N. Y. Volunteers	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	3	4	10
N. J. Volunteers	.	.	.	2	.	1	1	.	3	.	21	.	.	.	.	.	3	31
1st Delancey's	.	1	.	4	.	.	.	.	1	.	8	.	1	.	5	1	28	49
Provl Light Infantry .	.	.	.	3	.	2	1	1	3	.	12	.	1	3	1	.	21	48
Artilly, & Additionals	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	11	18
Total	2	6	1	75	1	4	8	3	20	2	313	2	4	4	15	8	224	692

Names of Officers Killed, Wounded & Miſsing —

19th	Lieut Hickman	killed.
3rd	Lieut Beckwith	
19th	Lieut Fitzgerald	Wounded
30th	Lt Ankettle	
3rd	Major Leslie	
63rd	Lt Campbell Lt Lloyd Ens: Murray	
64th	Lt Graham Lt Cowall	
84th	Capt R. Campbell	
N. J. V.	Capt Barberie Lt Troup	
Cavy	Cornet Van horne	
P. L. In	Capt Shaw Capt Buskirk Lt Cox Ens: Montgomery	
3rd	Lt Hamilton	Miſsing
63rd	Capt St Leger Lt Beacroft	
64th	Capt Strong Ens: Laton	
1st D:	Lt Cunningham	
P. L. Inf:	Lt Blair Ens: Evans Ens: Reed Adjt Murray	

Came in a flag of truce from Chesapeak, with Major Barclay of the Loyal Americans, who was taken by the French Fleet on his paſsage from Charlestown. Also with some women of the 69th Regt who were taken on board a ship that sailed under Convoy of The Pegasus, with the baggage of the 69th Regiment from the West Indies. The flag has also brought some Soldiers (and their wives) who were lately exchanged at Jamestown, and were going from thence to Yorktown, but on the arrival of the French fleet in Chesapeak, they were all detained. Those only who had wives with them, have been sent in here on parole.

Major Barclay, who was prisoner on board M: Bougainville's ship, L'Auguste, in the late action, says she suffered a good deal, having received 132 shot, and had 10 men killed, and a good many wounded. He says the French fleet in Chesapeak consists of 34 sail of the line, and 2 of 50, besides frigates — that they would have attacked the British fleet on the Second day after the action, had not the arrival of a frigate with the account of M. de Barras' having arrived in the Chesapeak from Rhode Island induced them to decline it in order to secure a junction with that Squadron, as they were very apprehensive the British would have pushed for the Chesapeak, and thereby destroyed it.

While Major Barclay was on board the Fleet, a veſsel was brought in from Charlestown, on board of which was Major Tympany of the Provincials, coming with dispatches to Lord Cornwallis, with an account that Mr Greene had paſsed the Santee with about 8000 men on the 8th September, and attacked Lieut Colo Stewart of the Buffs, and Lieut Colo Cruger, who commanded about 2000 British and Provincials, at a place called the Eutaw Springs in South Carolina. That the right of each Army was defeated; but the action ended in Mr Greene's defeat, with the loſs of 200 killed & 500 taken, with 2, 6 prs. In the beginning of the action, the right of the British was obliged to retire, and Lieut Colo Stewart was taken, but Lieut Colo Cruger having defeated Greene's right, attacked his left with so much spirit, that he drove them back, and retook Lt Colonel Stewart.

1st Octr Very fine weather. Cloudy. Wind N.

The Pegasus came in last night from a Cruize.

All the Admirals, and the Lieutenant & Major Generals, were in consultation with the Commander in Chief yesterday 'till 4 oClock.

It appears very doubtful that the Navy will after all attempt, or undertake any thing towards the relief of Lord Cornwallis. The general conversation among them from the Captains downwards, is, of the great superiority of the French fleet, the impoſsibility of destroying any of them by fireships, or forcing them in the position they have taken, and the certainty that they will come out immediately on the appearance of the British fleet, and attack it. They talk very freely of the conduct of the Admiral on the 5th of September, and appear more ready to censure the conduct of others than to refit their own ships. Several of the Captains spend more of their time on shore than they do on board, and appear as unconcerned about the matter as if they commanded Guard ships at Portsmouth. The Montague, has not got either her Main, or Mizen Masts in yet; and it seems agreed upon by most of them that the fleet cannot be

British	F.	S.	T.	Station	German	F.	S.	T.	Station
Roy: Art:	405	77	1010	N: York	Jagers	.	.	.	$\frac{1}{2}$ S: I: $\frac{1}{2}$ K. B.
17. Drag:	264	64	388	Westbury. L: I:	Lin:	.	.	.	Sta: Isl:
1st Gren:	431	47	480	Sta: Is^l	Len:	.	.	.	St^a Isl:
2ed Gren:	412	56	469	St^a Is^l	Lo^e	.	.	.	Sta: Isl:
22ed	345	74	434	Sta: Isl:	Lat^e Gr^a	.	.	.	St^a Isl:
37th	384	63	460	Sta: Is^l	Du Co:	.	.	.	St^a Isl
38th	325	117	445	Greenwich	P. Cha^s	.	.	.	Sta: Isl:
40th	280	113	405	N. York	Lan:	476	27	505	N. York
42ed	512	123	639	Sta: Isl:	Don:	406	84	491	K. bridge
54th	317	99	418	N. York	Lo^s	.	.	.	K. bridge
57th	312	81	402	Sta: Isl:	Knyp:	.	.	.	N: York
69th	449	116	606	N: York	Bunau	353	147	501	N: York
					H: Ha^n	515	152	667	Brooklyn
Provincial					A^n Ze^r	286	90	376	Paul: hook
3rd Del:	239	78	355	Jamaica	Brun:	136	8	144	Pau^l hook
1st Skin:	240	54	399	St^a Isl:	Wal^d	78	43	121	Newtown
3rd Ski^n	204	45	402	St^a Isl:	H. H. Ja^g	28	18	46	Wallabou:
Loy: Am:	143	67	293	McGow:	Art:				
Ame^{r}Pio^n	92	10	177	H. Hook					
A. Legion	149	54	206	Ired Heights L. I.					
K. A. Dra^g	124	42	166						

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ready for Sea, under ten days. If they cannot, they may as well ſtay for 10 Months.

I muſt not omit observing here that Lord Robert Manners, Commanding The Resolution, and Captain Graves, Commanding the Bedford, have been moſt aſsiduous in getting their respective ships in order, and have set an example which should have been followed by many others. The former has not slept out of his ship once, and both their ships have been ready for some days —

The British Grenadiers are ordered to march toMorrow to Billop's point, the Heſsian Grenadiers to Richmond, and the Jagers to the Blazing Star, Staten Island, and encamp there. The Heſse Hanau Regiment is to croſs from Brooklyn toMorrow, and march to Kingsbridge, to replace Donop's Regiment, which is to march to McGowan's; to be at hand for a move.

All this looks as if the thoughts of embarking were given over yeſterday, and that the Commander in Chief means to ſtrike at Philadelphia.

2ed Octr Fine weather. Little wind at S.

The troops mentioned yeſterday, moved agreeable to the orders they received.

An Arrangement was made this day for the diſtribution of the troops on board the ships of war.

3rd — Fine weather. Wind W.

A Whale boat that rows 12 Oars, and carries a Gun and some Swivels, went off this day for Yorktown. Lieut Colonel Cochrane is gone in her with letters for Lord Cornwallis.

The diſtribution made of the troops to go on board the ships of war, was sent this day to the respective Corps and persons concerned.

Diſtribution of the troops on board The Fleet

		Offrs & Men
London Prince George Barfleur Bedford	British Grenadrs & detacht of Light Infantry	1112
Resolution Alcide Invincible Shrewsbury Centaur Montague	Heſsian Grenadiers	1736
Ajax Royal-Oak Monarch Alfred Belliqueux Prudent	37th Du Corps, & Prince Charles	1590
Canada Robuſte Princeſsa America	22ed, & 42ed	1067
Lion Europe	Jagers	502
Intrepid Warwick	British & Provincial Detachments	392
Adamant Blonde	German Detachments	166
Orpheus	Guides & Pioneers	31
Perseverence Sybil	Heſsian Grenadiers	80
Total		6676

The Ships of war are going on briskly, but some of them will not be ready for sea these seven days; particularly the Ajax and Montague.

4th Octr — Fine weather, but cold. Fresh wind at N. W. Thermometer 49° at 9 this Morning.

Admiral Digby having been appointed Joint Commiſsioner with The Commander in Chief, his Commiſsion was opened this day in form. He was saluted with 19 Guns, and had a Guard of a Captain, 2 Subalterns and 50 men, with the Regimental Colour. The Guard was furnished by the 69th Regiment.

5th — Very fine day. Wind S. W.

A report prevails, that Lord Cornwallis was attacked the 25th September by Fayette, and that 600 French and Rebels have been killed.

I think Fayette would hardly be so imprudent as to attack any of Lord Cornwallis's posts, when the Rebel Army was on the point of being aſsembled. Poſsibly de Graſse may have intimated that he cannot remain with his fleet and troops in the Chesapeak beyond a certain day, which may have induced Fayette to attack some particular post by way of accelerating the siege. Lord Cornwallis has doubtleſs taken up a position as extensive as poſsible, consistent with his safety, in order to oblige the Enemy to break ground as far distant as he can, by which means he will gain time. At the same time I am convinced he will omit no opportunity of striking at any Corps of the Enemy that gives an opening.

6th Octr — Very fine mild day. Little wind at S. E.

A Ship arrived last night in 4 weeks from Jamaica. She parted from the Prince William and Torbay off the E. end of Jamaica, and from the James, 44 Guns lately, all bound for this port. 'Tis said The Prince William & Torbay were ordered to rendezvous at Lynnhaven bay, so that 'tis much fear'd they will fall into the hands of the Enemy.

A ship also arrived last night from Quebec; she saw part of the fleet, which sailed lately from hence, at Quebec, and the rest at the Isle of Bic. She met a fleet from Cork going up the River.

At 11 this Morning a Signal was made for some ships of war, and a fleet of Merchantmen; supposed to be the fleet from England under Convoy of the Centurion.

Sailed The Bellisarius, 24 Guns, for Halifax. 'Tis reported that The French have sent two line of Battle ships up York river, above the town, and they suffered very severely by the fire of our batteries in paſsing.

7th Octr Clear cold day. Fresh wind at N. N. W. till 5 in the afternoon.

Eighty Waldeck Recruits removed this day from Long Island to Paulushook, and replaced the Brunswick Recruits, amounting to 120 men, who went down to Denyce's ferry.

The ships arrived yesterday prove to be a fleet of Victuallers and traders from Cork, under Convoy of the Santa Margarita of 36 Guns, Captain Salter. They sailed the 18th July. One of the fleet from England came in with them. She parted that fleet off the Western Islands.

The wind blew so strong all day, the Victuallers could not get up to the town.

Some prizes came in yesterday with the fleet: particularly a large ship of 20 guns, laden with Masts, Yards &c, from Boston, bound to Chesapeak, for the use of the French fleet, taken by the Carysfort. This is the ship that The Magicienne was convoying to Boston, when she was taken by The Chatham. The capture of this ship at this time is of great service to us, and must be a very material loſs to the French.

Frigates, 7th Oct

La Nymph	40
Perseverence	38
Sta Margarita	36
Pegasus	28
Sybil	28
Blonde	32
Orpheus	32
Amphion	32
Pearl	32
Huſsar	24
Amphitrite	24
Carysfort	28
Solebay	28
Charlestown	32
Magicienne	40
Bellisarius	24

No accounts from Lord Cornwallis. The Rebel papers say he has withdrawn all his troops from Gloucester, and now occupies only Yorktown.

The Amphion is cruizing near the Capes of Virginia, to endeavor to fall in with the ships from Jamaica, and prevent their going into Lynnhaven agreeable to the orders they had received.

All the ships of war now here are expected to be ready for Sea in Six days. The fireships are going on fast, and will be ready by that time.

The Royal Artillery having proposed the using of Howitzers, and small Mortars on board the line of battle ships on the present occasion, The Admiral has approved, and The Commander in Chief consented to, their being tried; and 7–8 Inch Howitzers, mounted on carriages made on purpose, are to be put on board so many of the large ships. Mortars are also to be tried, and great effect is expected from them.

8th Octr Very fine day. Wind variable till 12 o'Clock, and then S.

Part of the Cork fleet came up last night, and the remainder came up, and went into the E. River this day. The Santa Margarita also came up, and anchored in the North River.

Prince William, attended by General Birch and several other Officers, went out this Morning to Kingsbridge. The Prince went over the bridge, and as far as the Advanced Centries of the Jagers. After having viewed the posts, and all the works, he returned to town, near which he was met, as if by accident, by the Commander in Chief and his Suite. The Prince was saluted on his arrival at Kingsbridge with 19 Guns from Fort Knyphausen.

9th — Very fine weather. Wind W.

An expreſs boat rowing 14 Oars came in last night from Yorktown with a letter from Lord Cornwallis dated 29th Septr. The Enemy, altho' then aſsembled, had not fired a shot at him; the troops were in health and great spirits. An attempt had been made to burn some of the French ships stationed in the Mouth of York River, but by the fireships having been set fire to too soon, they had not the desired effect, however one of the Enemy's ships was obliged to cut her cable, & went ashore, from whence she was got off in a short time, and 'tis supposed with some damage, as she went down the bay soon after.

The body of the French fleet is anchored off the horse shoe.

As the Enemy had not broke ground on the 29th September, there is every reason to hope that we may sail from hence in time to raise the siege.

A number of British and German Officers of the Convention Army, came in this day from Connecticut. All the Officers of that Army are now exchanged; the remainder of them are expected in daily. They have got above 200 Soldiers exchanged with them. There still remains about 400 British Soldiers of that Army at Lancaster in Pennsylvania.

Some Rebels from Connecticut surprized a post lately, which had been established by some Refugees at Smithtown, Long Island; in which they killed 4 men, and took about 20 prisoners.

10th Octr — Very warm day. Wind S.

Came in The Sandwich packet, in 7 weeks from Falmouth, with the August Mail. She got ashore near Sandy hook coming in, and the Mail was sent up in a Pilot boat.

The British Grenadiers marched this day from Billop's point, The Heſsian Grenadiers from Richmond, and the Jagers from the blazing star, and encamped on their former ground near the watering place.

Almost every article of the provisions and ammunition to be carried by the ships of war, is now on board them, and it is determined that on the 12th the troops are to embark on board the transports formerly allotted them, and are to go from them on board the Men of war, as soon as the latter get down to Sandy hook. Most of the ships are ready, but the Invincible still wants her Fore Mast in, and the Intrepid her Mizen-Mast.

11th Octr — Warm day. Wind S. W.

Came up a Brig taken by the Torbay and Prince William, which ships are arrived off Sandy hook from Jamaica. The James, 44 Guns, Captain O'Hara, arrived a few days ago, but wants some material repairs, and will not be able to go out with the fleet.

The safe arrival of the two line of battle ships at this crisis, is an event of very great importance, and is a capital acceſsion of strength to the fleet.

Six, 8 Inch Howitzers have been placed on board Six line of battle ships. They have been tried in presence of The Admirals and many of the Navy Officers, and are much approved of.

They are placed at one of the ports next the Poop ladder, on the Quarter deck. Carriages to suit the ports have been made on purpose for them, to which breechings are fixed in the same manner as to the Cannon. A Captain of Artillery, with a sufficient number of men for the service of the Howitzer, is to embark with each. Orders were given this day, for the embarkation of the troops toMorrow. They are to go on board the transports at Staten Island, and embark in the Ships of war as soon as they get to Sandy hook.

12th Octr — Very fine morning. Wind S. W. Cloudy after 12 o'Clock — Small rain at 4. Heavy rain from 6 till 9, when it cleared up.

Prince William went down to Staten Island this Morning at 9 oClock. I had been sent down from The Adjutant General's department early in the Morning, to aſsiſt in arranging the troops previous to their marching by the Prince to the place of embarkation.

The troops marched by him near Coles ferry in Sub Divisions, two deep, in open order, and Slow time. The Officers and Colours saluted, and the Drummers beat a March. In the following order, vizt, Detachment of Light Infantry, Jagers, British Grenadiers, Heſsian Grenadiers, 22d, 37th, & 42ed Regiments, Prince Charles, Du Corps, and the German Detachments. His Highneſs was much pleased with the appearance of so fine a body of men, and asked a great many queſtions respecting the different Corps, and Companies, and the Officers Commanding each. After the whole had paſsed, he went to the beach, and was very particular in observing the manner of embarking the men, and placing them in the boats, and seem highly pleased with the troops, (particularly the British Grenadiers) who were in high spirits. The Prince was attended by Admiral Digby and several Officers of the Navy. They went on board The Barfleur about 2 oClock, and from thence to New York.

The embarkation of the troops was completed about ½ paſt 3 o'Clock.

The Torbay 74 Guns, Capt Gidoin, and Prince William 64, Capt came up thro' the Narrows at 2 oClock, and anchored with Sir Samuel Hood's Squadron off Staten Island.

The Virginia, a Privateer belonging to Mr Goodrich, came in this day from a Cruize. The 30th September she fell in with a large fleet, 30 leagues off Cape Hatteras, under Convoy of several two Decked ships, and three Admirals; supposed to be the Spanish fleet from The Havanna to Spain. Many here are of opinion it was the fleet from England under Convoy of the Centurion. The Virginia has had an Engagement with a Rebel ship of 28 Guns, and was glad to get off.

An expreſs boat came in laſt night from Lord Cornwallis, which left him the 3rd. His Lordship had then retired within the works at Yorktown, and the Enemy had broke ground, and made two Redoubts, about 11 hundred yards from his works, which were nearly embraced by such works as they had thrown up, and others of which they had taken poſseſsion. The French fleet by the beſt accounts 35 Sail of the line. Some of them in York River, part in Hampton road, & the Main body off the Horse shoe.

'Tis said the Enemy had made an attack upon one of our advanced Redoubts, from which they were beaten back with the loſs of 180 killed.

13th Octr Very fine day, and warm till near 12 o'Clock, with the wind at S. W, at which time a very black cloud came on from the Weſtward, with thunder, lightning, and heavy rain, mixed with hail; the wind blew ſtrong at W, but soon after shifted suddenly to the N. N. W, and blew with great violence. This thunder guſt continued with great violence 'till half paſt one, during which some of the ships of war drove, and the whole were obliged to lower their yards and topmaſts. The wind continued to blow fresh at N. W. till night.

During the gale The Alcide drove foul of The Shrewsbury, carried away the head of the latter's bowsprit, and sprung her own fore yard.

Several accidents happened to small craft, & boats, which were out at the time the guſt came on.

Two Soldiers, a Waldecker, and an Anhalt Zerbſter, were carried off from the advanced poſt at Paulus-hook yeſterday afternoon, by a party of Rebels who were lurking about there.

14th Octr — Clear fine weather. Fresh wind at W.

None of the transports suffered any material damage yeſterday, but several boats were loſt, and some persons drowned.

Corps Embarked for the Expedition, & their Commanders

	Men	
1st British Grenadiers	430	Lieut Colo Marsh — 43rd
2ed Do	410	Lieut Col: Fox — 38th
Linsing	300	Lieut Col: Linsing
Lengercké	330	Lieut Col: Lengercké
Loewenſtein	320	Lieut Col: Loewenſtein
(Late) Graff	290	Major Platte
Jagers	400	Lieut Colo Wurmb
22ed Regiment	360	Major Lysaght
37th	380	Major Montgomery
38th	350	Captain Millet
42ed	510	Major Graham
Du Corps	450	Major Stamford
Prince Charles	460	Lieut Colo Schreiber
British Detachments	390	Captain Adlam — 40th
German Do	150	Colo Cochenhausen
Guides & Pioneers	30	Capt McAlpin
Artillery	50	Captain Walker
Rank & file	5610	

Officers of the Public Departments

Adjutant General	Major Delancey — 17th Dragoons
Aſsiſt Dep: Adjt Genl	Captain Bibby — 80th Regt Capt Stapleton — 17th Dragoons
Dep: Qr Mr General	Major Robertson — Engineers
Aſsist D. Q. M. Genl	Lieut Stuart — 42ed
Commanding Engineer	Captain Parker
Commiſsary	Roger Johnſton, Esqr
Physician	Dr Clark
Surgeons	Mr Johnſton Mr McIntyre
Mates	Six

As moſt of the ships of war are now ready they will proceed to the hook the firſt fair wind, but it is feared that the accident which happened to The Shrewsbury yeſterday, will detain them a day or two longer.

The troops are in perfect readineſs to be put on board the Ships of war; and I am of opinion they should be embarked immediately, for as some little time is neceſsary to fix themselves in the places allotted them on board, and to embark such trifling baggage and ſtores, as the Officers are allowed to take with them, it will be done in leſs time, and with leaſt trouble to all

General Officers and their Suites. —

Commander in Chief	Lieut Colo Crosbie — 22ed
	Major Wilmonsky — Prince Charles
	Major Lloyd — 3rd 60th
	Captain Keppel — 23rd
	Lieut Colo Bruce — 54th
	Lieut Col: Watson — Guards
	Capt Lord Dalrymple — 87th
	Capt Stevenson — 5th
	Capt Ruſsel — Secretary
Lieut Genl Leslie	Capt Skelly — 71st
	Major of brigade Bowes — 64th
Major Genl Paterson	Captain Noble — 3rd 60th
	Majr of brigade Scott — 17th
Brigr Genl Earl of Lincoln	Majr of brigade Phillips — 38th
Brigr Genl Gunning	Majr of brigade Losack — 43rd
Major General Wurmb	Lieut Wiederhold — Du Corps
	Majr of brigade Wynyard — 64th
Major General Kospoth	Lieut Marquard — Ditfourth
	Lieut Kospoth — Landgrave

parties, while the ships are in harbour, than when at Sandy hook, and the fleet probably in a hurry to go to Sea.

15th Octr Warm day. Wind S. W.

All the ships of war which lay off Staten Island (The Torbay, and Prince William excepted) went down through the Narrows this day to Sandy hook.

The Flank Companies of the 40th and 69th Regiments are ordered to go on the Expedition.

16th — Warm weather. Fresh wind at S. —

Several of the ships of war went down from hence to Staten Island. Others attempted it but were obliged to anchor again. Unfortunately The Centaur, in turning down, got aground on Robins Reef about 11 oClock, where she ſtuck, and remained all the tide.

A small Schooner came in laſt night with dispatches from St Kitts; also a ship from St Thomas's.

The Nymphe, 40 Guns, Captain Ford, came in this Morning from a Cruize, and has brought in with her, a Rebel Privateer of 22 Guns, and some other prizes.

The Expreſs boat that sailed from hence the 3rd Inst with Lieut Colo Cochrane for Yorktown, returned here laſt night, having left that place the 12th Inſtant, with dispatches for the Commander in Chief. The purport of them is, that the Enemy made their firſt parralel the 6th and at the diſtance of 600 yards; that they advance with great caution. That they opened their batteries on the 9th and have kept up a conſtant fire with above 40 pieces of heavy cannon, and 16 large Mortars, which had destroyed above 100 men and damaged the works considerably; and that they made their 2cd parralel the night of the 11th within 300 yards.

'Tis said that The Charon, 44 Guns, and some of the transports, have been burnt by the fire of the Enemy.

The French fleet certainly conſiſts of 34 sail of the line. The Army againſt Lord Cornwallis is said to amount to near 20,000 men.

Lord Cornwallis is in daily expectation of the appearance of the British fleet to relieve him, and without them, he has no great hopes of withſtanding the great force collected againſt him.

If the Navy are not a little more active, they will not get a sight of the Capes of Virginia before the end of this Month, and then it will be too late. They do not seem to be hearty in the busineſs, or to think that the saving that Army is an object of such material consequence. One of the Captains has exposed himself so much as to say, that the loſs of two line of battle ships in effecting the Relief of that Army, is of much more consequence than the loſs of it. Sir Samuel Hood appears to be the only man of that Corps who is urgent about the matter, and sees the neceſsity of doing something immediately. The others think too much of the superiority of the French fleet, and say ours is by no means equal to the undertaking.

17th Octr — Heavy rain from 10 'till 12 laſt night, with a ſtrong wind at S. S. E. Clear morning and pleasant day, with a fine wind at N. W.

A Signal was made early this Morning for the ships to get under way; in consequence of which those at Staten Island went through the narrows, and proceeded to the hook, and all those in the North River, (except the Montague, Europe, and Shrewsbury) went down before night, and moſt of them, got through the narrows. The transports also went down to the hook.

Diſtribution of the troops on board The Fleet

		Gun	Troops
Brit: Grend^{rs} & Detacch^{t} of L^{t} Infantry	London	90	280
	P. George	90	280
	Barfleur	90	280
	Bedford	74	272
Heſs: Grend^{rs}	Resolution	74	276
	Alcide	74	276
	Invincible	74	276
	Shrewsbury	74	276
	Centaur	74	276
	Montague	74	276
	Perseverence	36	50
	Sybil	28	30
Du Corps	Ajax	74	272
	Royal Oak	74	272
P. Charles	Monarch	74	272
	Alfred	74	272
37th	Belliqueux	64	251
	Prudent	64	251
22ed, & 42ed	Robuſte	74	272
	Canada	74	272
	Princeſsa	74	272
	America	64	251
Jagers	Lion	64	251
	Europe	64	251
38th	Torbay	74	272
	P. William	64	251
Brit: Detach^{ts}	Intrepid	64	251
	Warwick	50	141
Germn. D^{o}	Adamant	50	141
	Blonde	32	25
Pioneers	Orpheus	32	30
	Pegasus	28	30

Ships of war remaining at New York. —

Janus	44 —	Capt^{t} O'Hara
Mentor	20 —	
Beaumont	18	
Avenger	16	
Recovery	14	
Argo	14	
Keppel	14	

La Nymphe — 40. going to Sea

The Centaur was got off laſt night when the tide rose, without having received any material damage.

The Oſtrich, an Armed ship of 20 Guns got aground, off the point of the lower battery in coming out of the Eaſt River, on a flat rock that was not known before. She was got off soon without damage.

The Lively, Captain Manley, and The Halifax Packet, with the Mail for England, went down with the fleet. They are to proceed home, as soon as the fleet sails from the Hook.

Transports allotted to the troops, and in which they embarked at Staten Island, 12th October 1781 —

1st Grend^{rs}	Apollo Esther*
2ed D^{o}	Free Briton* Union
Linsing	Lord Howe Providence*
Lengerckè	Peggy Grace*
Loewenstein	Alicia Hope*
Graff	Alexander* Wisk
37th	Thetis* Union (Wilson)
42ed	Nestor* Betsy Molly
22ed	Rainham hall Regard*
38th	Nicholas & Jane Fathers desire*
Du Corps	Antonetta Keppel* Munificence
P. Charles	Amazon* William
Jagers	Integrity* Milford Joseph

Pioneers	New bleſsing
Brit: Detach^{ts}	Minerva* Antelope Baker & Atlee
Germ: D^{o}	Polly —

* Thus marked, have the baggage of the Corps on board —

Baggage ships for the Generals, &c.

Com^{r} in Chief	Briton
Q^{r} M^{r} Genl, & Agents	Elisabeth
British Generals	Eolus
German D^{o}	Caledonia

The Commander in Chief went on board The London this day, having left town about 2 o'Clock. The Command of all the troops in the district of New York, devolves upon Lieu^{t} General Knyphausen.

18th Oct^{r} — Very fine day. Moderate wind at N. W.

The Montague, Europe and Shrewsbury, with one of the fire-ships, went down this Morning at 8 oClock, and went through the Narrows at two.

There is now none of the Expedition fleet remaining on this side the narrows, except the Santa Margarita. She attempted to go down, but having anchored between the battery and Governor's Island, she could not get out without danger of going ashore on the reef off the W. point of that Island.

Part of the troops went on board the men of war yesterday, and many this day.

The Barfleur, Prince George, Princeſsa, and another ship, went over the bar this Morning. 'Tis hoped that the whole of the troops will be on board, and all the ships over the bar in the course of toMorrow's tide. The Wind remains very fair at 11 o'Clock this Night.

Nineteen Rebels taken by Delancey's Refugees yesterday on the other side of the Croton, were brought to town this day.

The Troops on board the Ships of War to be served with provisions in the same Manner as the Ships Companies.

19th Octr — Very fine day. Wind N. till 11 o'Clock, when it changed to S. and continued so during the remainder of the day.

List of The British Fleet — 19th October 1781 —

London	90
Prince George	90
Barfleur	90
Princeſsa	74
Bedford	74
Canada	74
Ajax	74
Shrewsbury	74
Robuste	74
Resolution	74
Royal Oak	74
Centaur	74
Alcide	74
Alfred	74
Monarch	74
Montague	74
Invincible	74
Torbay	74
Prince William	64
Intrepid	64
Prudent	64
Belliqueux	64
Europe	64
Lion	64
America	64
Adamant	50
Warwick	50

Santa Margarita	36
Orpheus	32
Blonde	32
Sybil	28
Pegasus	28
Perseverence	32
Rattlesnake	18
Jane	14
Pearl	32
Salamander Conflagration	Fireships

Recapitulation

3	of 90	27 of 2 Decks
15	of 74	
7	of 64	
2	of 50	
1	36	
4	32	
2	28	
1	18	
1	14	
4	— Fire ships —	

The Fleet were all over the bar this Morning, & at 4 this afternoon were under way, stretching to the Eastward.

A Signal at 12 oClock for a fleet, supposed to be that from England under Convoy of the Centurion.

20th Octr — Good weather. Wind S. all day.

The transports came up last night from Sandy hook, having put all the troops on board the fleet without any accident.

The fleet for which the signal was made yesterday proves to be that from England under convoy of the Centurion 50 Guns, Captain Clayton. It consists of about 70 sail. Six of the fleet which sailed originaly are miſsing, having been left in Tercera

List of The French Fleet, in the Chesapeak —

Ville de Paris	110	Triton	54
St Esprit	86	Experiment	50
Auguste	84	Romulus	44
Languedoc	84	Andromache	42
Duc de Bourgogne	80	Reilluese	40
Hector	74	Diligente	32
Palmier	74	Aigrette	32
Glorieux	74	Gentille	32
Sceptre	74	Surveillante	32
Diademe	74	Ariel	24
Zele	74	Serpent	18
Victoire	74	Alert	16
Citoyen	74	Fantasque, Flute	24
Magnanime	74		
Pluton	74		
Conquerant	74		
Bourgogne	74		
Destin	74		
Marsiellois	74		
Northumberland	74		
Ceasar	74		
Souvereigne	74		
Hercule	74		
Neptune	74		
Scipion	74		
Valient	64		
Solitaire	64		
Evielle	64		
Provence	64		
Jason	64		
Caton	64		
Refleché	64		
Ardent	64		

Recapitulation

1 of	110	36 — of 2 Decks
1	86	
2	84	
1	80	
20	74	
8	64	
1	54	
1	50	
1	44	
1	40	
4	32	
2	24	
1	18	
1	16	

Corps with Lord Cornwallis

Guards
1st Light Infantry
2ed D^{o}
17th Regiment
23rd
33rd
43rd
71st–2ed Batt^{n}
76th
80th
1st Anspach
2d Anspach
Prince Hereditaire
Bose
Queen's Rangers
Legion
Light Comp^{y} 82ed
D^{o} N^{o} Car^{a} Reg^{t}
Detach^{t} of Jagers
Detach^{ts} { British Artillery
German D^{o}
Guides & Pioneers

Corps embarked in the Fleet.

1st British Grenadiers
2ed D^{o}
22ed Regiment
37th
38th
42ed
Linsing
Lengercke
Loewenstein
Graff
Du Corps
Prince Charles
Jager^{s}
Detach^{ts} of { British & Prov^{l} Corps in Virginia
German D^{o} D^{o}
British Artillery
German D^{o}
Guides & Pioneers

Troops remaining at New York, & poſts depending. 19th Oct^{r}

British Artillery
17th Dragoons
40th Regiment
54th
57th
69th
Jagers
Landgrave
Donop
Losberg
Bunau
Knyphausen
Heſse Hanau
Heſse Han: Jagers
Anhalt Zerbſt
Waldeck Recruits
Brunswick D^{o}
3rd Delanceys
1st
3rd } New Jers: Vol^{rs}
American Legion
Kings Amer: Dra^{gs}
Loyal Americans
Guides & Pioneers

road. One came in with the Cork fleet, and one was run away with by the Crew, and carried into Egg harbour.

The Centurion took a Schooner 6 days ago, that had then been three days out from Chesapeak, by which she was firſt informed of The French fleet being in that bay. The Amphion fell in with the Fleet, three days before it came in.

Twelve Month's provisions for the Army is come in this fleet. 26 sail of veſsels under Convoy of the Camel, 28 Guns, parted from this fleet 14 days ago, bound for Charleſtown.

The Centurion, and her Convoy came up this morning. Tis said she wants water, and some repairs, but as the Admiral might have taken her with him if he chose, it is a proof that he thinks him sufficiently ſtrong without her.

Detail of the duty in New York. 19th October 1781

	Guards, &c.	C	S	S	D	R & F
Daily	Main	1	1	2	2	62
	Naval Store	.	1	1	1	37
	Hay Magazine	.	1	1	1	34
	Commander in Chief's	.	.	1	.	28
	Provision ſtore	.	1	1	1	22
	Buncker's hill	.	1	1	1	19
	Sugar house prison	.	.	1	.	19
	Provoſt	.	.	1	.	25
	Weſt Wharf	.	.	1	.	19
	New hospital	.	.	1	.	19
	Coffee house wharf	.	.	1	.	13
	Eaſt wharf	.	.	1	.	13
	Sick prison	.	.	.	.	7
	Ferry	.	.	1	.	7
	Red house	.	.	.	.	4
	Redoubt N° 1	.	.	.	.	4
	N° 2	.	.	.	.	4
	N° 4	.	.	.	.	4
	N° 5	.	.	.	.	13
	New hay Magazine	.	.	.	.	7
	Of the Artillery, who mount daily	.	.	5	.	24
At Night	Picquets on the N. & E. Rivers	.	.	1	.	31
	Bayards-house	.	.	1	.	13
Weekly	Paulus hook	1	3	4	4	100
	Prison ship	.	1	1	1	20
	Turtle bay	.	1	1	1	19
	Total	2	10	27	12	567

Near 100 sail of veſsels came up and anchored in the rivers, laſt night, and this day.

21st Octr — Strong wind at Weſt — all day.

An Expreſs boat came in laſt night from Yorktown, which place she left the 15th at night. She brings a letter for the Commander in Chief, the purport of which is, that on the night of the 14th, the Enemy had ſtormed and carried two Redoubts on the left of our works, that they had included them in their 2ed parralel, which they were busy in perfecting: that our situation there becomes very critical, the fresh earthen works being ill able to reſiſt the fire of a powerful Artillery; so that with weakened numbers, a bad position, and in ruined works, the troops there will soon be exposed to an aſsault; which renders the safety of the place so precarious, that Lord Cornwallis cannot recommend that the fleet and Army should run any great risk in endeavoring to save him.

Copies of the letter, which was opened by General Knyphausen, were sent off this day by a row-boat, and by The Nymphe, to the Commander in Chief. The Nymphe went down this Morning to Sandy hook, and is going after the fleet; Major Genl Dalrymple, and Major St George, who arrived in the fleet from England, went in her.

The boat that brought the letter from Yorktown is a common transport's boat, rowing 6 Oars, & had 7 men in her. They were drove off the coaſt, and were out of sight of land for three days, but by great exertions, and after much fatigue they got safe in, without having seen anything of our fleet. The man who commands her is Mate of one of the transports, and says, that our loſs in killed, dead & wounded, since taking poſseſsion of York and Glouceſter, amounts to 500 men. We ſtill hold the poſts at Glouceſter, where the 80th Regiment, Queen's Rangers, and Legion are ſtationed, and where the Sick & wounded, Women & Children, horses, &c, are placed. The paſsage between York and Glouceſter is open, and boats paſs unmoleſted. Our batteaux, and large boats are kept on the Glouceſter side. Several deserters come in every day to York and Glouceſter, and there is some desertion from us, particularly the Anspach Regiments. No want of provisions. The troops in good spirits, but almoſt worn down with fatigue. Both Armies in daily expectation of seeing our fleet appear off the Capes.

Four boats were dispatched from Yorktown, with Copies of the letter brought here. Two of them were to lie concealed about the Capes, and when our fleet appeared were to endeavor to get on board one of the ships. The others were to proceed to this place, if they did not meet the fleet at Sea.

22ed Oct^{r} Fine weather. Fresh wind at W.

The wind was at N. great part of laſt night, from which we have great hopes that the fleet has got pretty far to the Southward, and will be enabled on the firſt change of wind to the Eaſtward, to ſtand in for the Chesapeak.

The Amphion, Captain Bazeley came in this day. She left the fleet the 20th, which had the wind more favorable that day than we expected. The Centurion is to join the fleet as soon as poſsible.

Return of The Killed, Wounded and Miſsing of The Rebel Army, at the Action at the Eutaw Springs. — 8th Sept^{r} 1781 —

Corps	Killed						Wounded					Miſsing		
	L^{t} Col^{o}	Majors	Captains	Subalterns	Serjeants	Rank & file	L^{t} Col^{o}	Captains	Subalterns	Serjeants	Rank & file	Serjeants	Rank & file	Total
Maryland brigade	.	.	2	2	1	21	1	2	4	7	64	.	9	113
Virginia brigade	1	.	1	1	1	13	.	2	2	4	24	.	4	53
North Carolina brigade	.	.	3	1	1	43	.	1	5	10	80	.	10	154
Delaware Battalion	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	6	1	1	10
Legion Infantry	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	1	1	10	.	1	17
.... Cavalry	.	.	.	.	.	5	.	.	1	1	9	.	1	17
Washington's Detach^{t} of Cav^{y}	.	.	.	.	1	10	1	1	4	1	8	.	3	29
Artillery Companies	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	3	.	8	.	3	15
Total Continentals	1	.	6	4	4	98	2	7	20	24	209	1	32	408
S^{o} Carolina State troops	.	1	.	2	4	6	2	4	4	7	26	.	.	56
S^{o} Carolina Militia	.	.	.	2	.	4	1	2	1	1	34	.	8	53
N^{o} Carolina Militia	.	.	.	.	.	6	.	.	.	.	31	.	.	37
Total, State troops, & Militia	.	1	.	4	4	16	3	6	5	8	91	.	8	146
General total	1	1	6	8	8	114	5	13	25	32	300	1	40	554

N. B. 1 Brigadier General Wounded 555

The above is taken from the Return signed by C. Thomson Secretary to Congreſs.

In consequence of the information received by General Knyphausen since the departure of the Commander in Chief, that a large body of troops from Canada, appeared some weeks ago on Lake Champlain, which has occasioned the Enemy to detach a considerable body of troops from Albany, Poughkeepsie, and the forts in The Highlands, towards Saratoga, it has been proposed, in order to alarm the Rebels, and oblige them to recall those detachments, to make immediate preparation for the embarkation of a large body of troops, under the command of General Arnold, and if circumstances will admit, to proceed up the River with a small Corps, and effect such services as may be found practicable. This has been approved of, and orders were accordingly given this afternoon to prepare all the transports in which the troops were lately embarked, to put Eight days provisions on board them, and to have them ready to receive the troops on board at 8 o'Clock toMorrow Morning.

Mr Greene's account of his action with the Corps under Lieut Colonel Stuart, at the Eutaw Springs in South Carolina on the 8th Septr last, has been published by order of Congress, by which it appears, that his loſs has been very considerable, and that notwithstanding he says he gained a Victory, he retired 7 miles the day of the action leaving his Cannon behind. His letter is dated the 11th Septr, and he says, that after giving his troops two days rest, he intends returning to the high hills of Santee. It is worthy of remark, that altho' he says, we lost 600 killed and wounded, and that he took 500 prisoners, he does not mention the name of any one of our Officers. These are no proofs of victory. His letter seems principally designed to gloſs over a defeat, by bestowing great praise on all the Officers and troops under his command.

Greene is however entitled to great praise for his wonderful exertions; the more he is beaten, the farther he advances in the end. He has been indefatigable in collecting troops, and leading them to be defeated.

There are accounts in town from Philadelphia, that make his loſs very considerable indeed: even so high as 1000 men, including an uncommon proportion of Officers.

23rd Octr — Good weather. Wind N. E. early in the Morning, and between that and E. by S. all day. Clear day, and cool in the afternoon.

Several heavy cannon heard to the Eaſtward at half paſt one this day.

General Knyphausen attended by moſt of the public Officers, went down to Staten Island this Morning where he visited the Fort at the Flagſtaff, and the batteries near it.

2 Generals } wounded.
21 Lt Colonels }
48 Captains }
4 Colonels } killed.
3 Majors }
27 Captains }
151 Subalterns & Serjeants, killed & wounded
791 Rank & file, killed, wounded & prisoners.

Total — 1047 — killed, wounded & prisoners

24th — Good weather, and Wind S, in the morning. Thick clouds and some rain at 3 o'Clock. Rain from 4 'till 7 in the Evening, during which the wind changed suddenly to the N. N. W. and blew ſtrong. Clear after 7, and fresh wind at N. W.

There was a good deal of firing heard yeſterday in Jersey, and some laſt night, from which it is supposed that the Enemy have taken Yorktown. Some people from Elisabeth town this morning say, that accounts have been received from the Southward of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis's Army.

This Evening the following hand bill, published at Trenton the 22'd Inst was brought in. —

"Trenton, 22ed Octr 1781

"This afternoon an Expreſs from Philadelphia paſsed thro' "this place on his way to the Eaſtward: by him the following "letter was received. —

"Philadelphia 22ed Octr 1781 —

"I have the pleasure of congratulating you on the capture of "Cornwallis and his whole army, on the 17th Inſtant. The par-"ticulars are not come to hand.

"The President of Congreſs has juſt received a copy of Count "de Graſse's letter to the Governor of Maryland, sent by water "to Annapolis; so that there is not a doubt of the fact. The "Count has taken his troops on board, and gone out to meet "Mr Digby. That they may meet, is the hearty prayer of,

"S. Miles, Dep: Qr Mr"

"Colonel Neilson" —

"From a Philadelphia paper of this day."

"With the most unbounded pleasure we can aſsure the public, "that dispatches have this Moment arrived, giving an account "of the unconditional surrender of Ld Cornwallis on the 17th "Inst, to our great & magnamimous Genl Washington."

Many people believe that the foregoing hand bill is fact: Others doubt it, and think it is very improbable such an event should have happened when the situation of Lord Cornwallis's Army on the 15th is considered.

25th Octr Clear cold weather. Wind W.

It blew very hard last night till 12 o'Clock.

This being the Anniversary of The King's acceſsion, 21 Guns were fired from the battery at 12 oClock. The ships of war in the harbour fired 21 Guns each at 1 o'Clock.

It is conceived that the succeſs of the Enemy on the 15th, in taking two of Lord Cornwallis's redoubts by Storm, may have given rise to the accounts which have been so industriously circulated, of the surrender of that Army. General Robertson believes firmly that Lord Cornwallis has surrendered, and that we shall see our fleet return into this port in a day or two. He appears displeased with those who differ in opinion with him on this matter. He now begins to talk much of the delays made by our fleet in refitting, and says they might have been out five days sooner, which would have saved Lord Cornwallis. He says it was determined in the last Council of War, not to attempt the attack of The French fleet, in case it was found on the arrival of ours off Chesapeak, that Lord Cornwallis had fallen.

I find by experience that General Robertson cannot keep any secret, and that he should not be entrusted with any thing of material consequence. He told the whole purport of Lord Cornwallis's last letter, in a public Company last night; and reasoned all he could to prove that his Lordship could not possibly hold out much longer.

General Robertson told several persons this Morning, that he had proposed to make a movement up the North River, in order to oblige the Rebels to withdraw the troops they detached lately to the Northward, but that the Agents of transports had told General Knyphausen it was troublesome going up the

River at this Season, and that they would inform the people in town that an Expedition was going up, which would answer the purpose full as well. The General also told them, that General Haldimand had orders to make an irruption on the Northern frontiers, in order to favor the operations of Sir Henry Clinton's Army. Genl Robertson is at present a mixture of good-sense, and inconſiſtency, and seems inclining to dotage.

Several persons came in this day from Jersey. Those who came in in the Morning say, the account circulated yeſterday, does not gain belief: some who came in, and left Elisabethtown this afternoon say, the whole arose from the account of the taking of the two Redoubts beforementioned.

26th Octr Rain from day light, till 6 at night. Wind E.

An account was brought in this day about 1 o'Clock, by a confidential person from Philadelphia, that the Army under Lord Cornwallis at York & Glouceſter, certainly surrendered on the 17th Inst, and that The French fleet after taking 3000 troops on board, had sailed on the 18th, with an intention to look for our fleet. The only particulars mentioned by this person are, that Washington summoned Lord Cornwallis on the 17th. That Ld Cornwallis refused to liſten to any terms offered by the Rebel General, but agreed to treat with the French General, who answered that being only second in Command he could not conclude any terms; that on Ld Cornwallis's refusing to treat in any other manner, Washington ordered an aſsault to be made on the works by a Chosen Corps under the Command of Wayne; that part of the works were carried, on which Ld Cornwallis agreed to surrender on certain terms. Those terms are not mentioned. The Rebel account says only that Lord Cornwallis with 5000 British troops, surrendered prisoners of war to General Washington.

The person who brought this account says he had it from one who saw de Graſse's letter to The French Miniſter at Philadelphia; who said that Monsr Clinton was The Count de Graſse's next object.

There seems to be many improbabilities in the above account. A day or two will perhaps give us some authentic information on this subject.

If the French fleet sailed on the 18th, taking 3000 troops on board, (which by the way I think very improbable) it is thought here that their intention is to make the beſt of their way, and take a Station off Sandy hook, and that they may attempt coming in while our fleet is at Sea. In consequence of this opinion, it has been agreed on, after consulting Captains Clayton of the Centurion, & Bazeley of the Amphion, that the Centurion 50 Guns shall go down early in the morning with all the transports to Sandy hook, where a number of veſsels are to be sunk on the bar on the firſt appearance of the Enemy's fleet; but if from circumſtances that should be rendered impracticable, they are to be sunk in the Channel between the E. and W. banks, and the Centurion with the other ships of war are to anchor within them. The batteries at the Narrows are to be put into the beſt order immediately, and our defences there to be augmented as much as poſsible.

State 15th October, & Diſtribution 23rd Octr 1781

Nation	Corps	F	S	T	Station
British	Artillery	.	.	.	New York, & poſts Depending
	17th Dragoons	267	62	389	Weſtbury. L. I.
	40th Regt	184	92	288	New York
	54th	307	103	412	New York
	57th	315	69	393	Flagſtaff. S. I.
	69th	327	100	461	New York
	Detachments	.	.	.	Brooklyn
German	Jagers	.	.	.	Kingsbridge
	Landgrave	453	50	505	New York
	Donop	372	117	490	McGowan's
	Losberg	383	106	493	Kingsbridge
	Bunau	350	150	501	New York
	Combined	235	194	429	New York
	Heſse Hanau	445	213	659	Kingsbridge
	... Jagers	36	6	42	Wallabought
	Anhalt Zerbſt	322	50	373	Paulus hook
	Waldeck Recruits	29	83	113	Paulus hook
	Bruns: Do	136	10	146	Denyces
Provincial	3rd Delancey's	237	81	357	Jamaica
	1st Skinners	242	49	396	Richmond
	3rd Do	205	37	394	Flagſtaff. S. I.
	Loy: Ameris:	131	76	290	McGowan's
	Amer: Legion	159	54	217	Fresh Meadows. L. I.
	King's Am: Dragss	136	38	174	Newtown heights
	Guides & Pioneers	.	.	.	Horn's hook
	Detachments	.	.	.	New York

State of The Royal Artillery, at N York, & Dependencies. 26th Oct: 1781

		L.C	C	L	V	N.C	D	R&F	Total
New York	Fit for duty	.	5	12	1	38	14	171	241
	Prisoners of War	.	2	.	.	10	2	22	36
	Sick	1	1	.	.	11	.	66	79
	Publick Employ	.	2	1	.	14	.	.	17
	Total	1	10	13	1	73	16	259	373
Fort Knyphausen		.	1	1	.	6	.	35	43
Staten Island		.	.	2	.	5	.	28	35
Paulus-hook		.	.	1	.	5	.	22	28
Whitestone bay		.	.	.	.	1	.	6	7
Denyces'		.	.	.	.	1	.	3	4
Brooklyn		.	.	.	.	2	.	.	2
Snake hill		.	.	1	.	2	.	10	13
Alarm Guns		.	.	.	.	1	.	3	4
Total		1	11	18	1	96	16	366	509

I do not think the French fleet will appear off this port, because the operations against a post of this consequence, cannot be completed in a short time; and as the bad weather will soon set in on this Coast, I am of opinion the French will go as soon as poſsible to The Cape, to repair their ships for the operations in the West Indies.

We have now to fear the meeting of the fleets. At least the generality of people here seem to fear it. Should there be an action, and should it end unfavorably for us, we have every thing to apprehend.

If the French Fleet should give ours the slip and anchor off this port, ours must endeavor to get into Gardner's bay, and land Sir Henry Clinton and the troops there, by which means only they can regain this place. In that case, our fleet should poſseſs themselves of Rhode Island, which is the only harbour in which they can lie in safety while the French remain on the Coast.

Should the French go immediately from Chesapeak to Cape François, the greatest part of our fleet must also push away for the West Indies.

As it is in some measure absolutely neceſsary for us to have a few large ships on this Coaſt during the Winter, we have now no harbours for them but Gardner's bay, and Halifax. But as we muſt remain on the defensive this winter, it might perhaps be prudent and adviseable to take poſseſsion of Rhode Island with about 4000 troops, which would afford a good harbour for our large ships and Cruizers, and secure the beſt ſtation in America should it become expedient to evacuate New York in the spring.

27th Octr Clear fine day. Wind N. W.

The Centurion, and all the transports weighed early this morning, and by 8 o'Clock the laſt of them was under way, and the wind and tide being very favorable they soon got thro' the Narrows. The Amphion, Capt Bazeley went down this Morning also; she is going to Sea to look out for our fleet, as well as to gain intelligence of that of the Enemy, and Signals have been agreed upon, by which we are to know which fleet is firſt seen off. If that of the Enemy, the ships are to be sunk on the bar.

Orders given this Morning for all Officers and Men, to join and remain with their Corps till further orders.

The fate of the Army under Lord Cornwallis is now no longer doubted. The following was brought in this Afternoon from Jersey, from which may be gathered the ſubſtance of the terms upon which Lord Cornwallis capitulated, but they appear by no means correct. — vizt.

Colonel Tench Tilghman, Aide de Camp to His Excellency General Washington, arrived at Philadelphia 24th Octr.

17th October Lord Cornwallis proposed a Ceſsation of arms to agree upon terms of Capitulation.

Articles of Capitulation settled between His Excellency General Washington, Commander in Chief of the Combined forces of America and France, His Excellency Count de Graſse, and Lord Cornwallis and Thomas Symonds Esqr.

1st — The Garrisons of York & Glouceſter, including Officers and Seamen, to be prisoners of war: the land troops to the United States, and the Navy to His moſt Christian Majeſty.
    Granted.

2ed — All the ſtores to be delivered up to the heads of the different departments.
    Granted.

3rd — At 12 o'Clock two redoubts at York, and two at Gloucester to be delivered up: two to the American Infantry, and two to the French Grenadiers.

Granted.

4th — Officers to retain their side arms, and Officers and Soldiers to keep their private property, if not belonging to the Inhabitants of the United States.

Granted.

5th — Soldiers to be kept in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Granted.

6th — The General and Staff Officers to go to Europe, New-York, or any other Maritime port in poſseſsion of the troops of the King of Great Britain. Proper veſsels to be provided by The Count de Graſse for that purpose.

Granted.

7th — Officers to keep their servants.

Granted.

8th — The Bonetta Sloop of war to carry dispatches unexamined to General Clinton in ten days.

Granted.

9th — Traders to keep their property, and not be prisoners of war.

Answer. The Allied Army is to have the right of preemption, and the traders to be prisoners of war.

10th — Natives and Inhabitants not to be punished for joining the British troops.

Answer. This article cannot be aſsented to, being of civil resort.

11th — Proper hospitals to be furnished for the Sick and wounded.

Granted.

12th — Waggons to carry the Officers baggage that attend the Soldiers.

Granted.

13th — The Shipping, Stores, &c, to be delivered up, after excluding private property put on board during the Siege.

Granted.

14th — No article to be infringed on account of reprisals.

Granted.

York. 19th Octr 1781.

Signals. —

A French Jack over an English one, at the Main top Gallant Maſt head of the look-out ship, is the Signal for the Enemy's fleet.

An English Jack over a French one, at the same place, is the signal for the British Fleet.

To be repeated on the Weſtern flagſtaff, Staten Island, and kept flying 'till answered by hoiſting the Colours at Fort George, half ſtaff up.

28th Oct^{r} — Very fine morning. Wind N. N. E. till one oClock from that time variable between N. E. & S. E. Cloudy afternoon.

The Signal for a British fleet being in the Offing, was made early this Morning by The Centurion at Sandy hook, and repeated at the Weſtern Flagſtaff Staten Island. It was immediately concluded that it was the Grand British fleet from the Southward; but some persons being sent to look out from Flatbush heights, it was found that 4 ships only were coming up, and that only one frigate was to be seen at Sea. The matter was cleared up at 5 in the afternoon by the arrival of two Officers from Sandy hook who informed us that the veſsels for which the Signal was made, are, the Chatham, 50 Guns, Captain Douglas, Aſsurance. 44, Captain Swiney, Garland, 24, Cap^{t} Chamberlayne, Vulture, 16, Captain McKay, and General Monk, 20, Captain Rogers; with two Maſt ships and two transports, from Quebec, Halifax, and Newfoundland.

One of the transports is from Quebec, and has brought about 170 Officers and Men of General Knyphausen's Regiment from that place. The Aſsurance has brought an Officer and 50 men of the 42ed Regiment from Newfoundland.

The Centurion, Chatham and Aſsurance, are to go to Sea in the Morning to join our fleet.

An account was brought in this day by M^{r} Sproat, Commissary of Naval Prisoners, from Elisabethtown, that there has been an Action between the British and French fleets, which laſted two days, but the event of it not known.

29th — Very fine morning. Wind N. N. E. Cloudy after 12 oClock; wind N. W, and some rain. Fine afternoon.

Advices have been received from Canada, of a movement of a large Corps from thence over the lakes, and that a Manifesto has been published by General Haldimand, inviting Ethan Allen, and the people of Vermont to join the British troops.

Accounts from the Country mention that Ethan Allen, with a large body of the people of Vermont and many loyalists from the upper districts of this province, have joined a considerable Corps of British, Canadians, and Indians from Canada, and that they have advanced as far as Saratoga. Many of the Rebel troops have moved to the Northward to oppose them.

A movement up the North River at this time with a Corps of 3000 men, would be of the greatest service, and embarraſs the Enemy exceedingly; but as all our transports are at the hook in readineſs for other services, nothing can be done in it until the arrival of The Commander in Chief.

No account yet from our fleet. There are several vague reports circulating, of an action, but no authentic account whatever.

The 17th Dragoons marched this day to Hampstead; and the Detachments of Brunswickers, & Heſse Hanau, to Denyces.

30th Octr High wind at W. last night for several hours. Moderate wind this Morning at W, and Cold.

The Detachment of an Officer and 50 men of the 42ed Regiment, which arrived from Newfoundland, but last from Halifax, in the Aſsurance, came up and landed this morning.

Captain Clayton, and the rest of the Captains of the Men of war at the hook, have determined, for reasons best known to themselves, not to go to Sea with the three two decked ships now there, but to remain at Sandy hook for the protection of that place and the bar.

31st Octr — Very fine day. Wind S.

The Avenger, 16 Guns, Captain Coffin, went up the North river this morning, to take her station off Spikendevil Creek.

As there have been several reports through the Rebels of an Action at Sea, which if true, made it highly proper for our two decked ships to go out and endeavor to join our fleet, and Captain O'Hara of the Janus, having delivered and explained to Captain Clayton, the Senior Captain in the port, the orders left with him by Admiral Graves, for the Chatham Centurion, & Aſsurance, to join him as soon as poſsible after their arrival, Captain Clayton at length thought proper to go to Sea with those ships, and accordingly they went over the bar laſt night. Those ships are a capital reinforcement to our fleet, as at present circumſtanced.

Came in this afternoon The Nymphe, 40 Guns, Captain Cochrane. She parted our fleet the 29th. They have been for two days off the Capes of Virginia, in sight of the French fleet, which was then at anchor in the Chesapeak, but did not think proper to move. Our fleet is returning to this port, in order to land the troops, after which it is to proceed to Sea, to observe the motions of the Enemy. The Chatham, Centurion & Aſsurance returned within the bar, on speaking with the Nymphe this Morning. The accounts by the Nymphe are, that our fleet heard of the surrender of Yorktown on the 24th, by three men who escaped from thence the night of the Capitulation, and came off in a small boat from Smith's Island. The fleet got sight of the Capes of Virginia on the 26th, and cruized in sight of them that day and the next; The Warwick and Nymphe were sent in to observe the Enemy's situation, and got so near as to count 48 pendants. A French line of battle ship and a frigate came out, but no shots were exchanged, as one retired when the others advanced. The certainty of the loſs of Lord Cornwallis's Army, & undoubted information that the French fleet could not be ready for Sea in several days, determined the Admiral to return off Sandy hook, land the troops, and then return to observe the motions of the Enemy.

The Bonetta, 18 Guns, Captain Dundas, came in this Evening from Yorktown, with dispatches for the Commander in Chief, brought by Lieut Colonel Abercrombie, who left that place the 24th.

A French Snow, a flag of truce, came in with the Bonetta, with several Captains, and other Officers of the Navy, taken by the French Fleet, previous to the surrender of Yorktown.

See the New York papers for the Articles of Capitulation, and the particulars of the Siege of Yorktown.

Lieut Colonel Abercrombie, who was on board The Ville de Paris before he left Chesapeak, aſsured me this night, that he counted the French fleet repeatedly, and that it consiſts of 31 ships of the line in Chesapeak; 1, 64 gun ship very much out of repair in York River, and the Experiment of 50 Guns. He says

Return of Killed, Wounded and Miſsing in Virginia, from 28th September to 19th October 1781.

Corps	Killed					Wounded					Miſsing					Total
	C	L	S	D	R	L	E	S	D	R	M	C	L	S	R	
Royal Artillery	.	.	.	.	24	.	.	.	.	21	.	.	.	.	2	47
Guards	.	.	1	.	3	.	.	1	.	21	.	.	.	.	.	26
Light Infantry	.	1	3	.	24	3	.	2	1	51	.	.	.	.	.	85
17th Regiment	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	6	.	.	.	.	.	8
23rd	.	2	1	.	8	.	.	3	2	15	.	.	.	.	.	31
33rd	1	.	.	.	7	1	.	1	.	10	.	.	1	.	7	28
43rd	.	.	1	.	9	.	.	1	1	16	.	1	.	.	11	40
71st	.	1	.	.	9	.	.	.	3	19	1	.	.	.	10	43
76th	.	.	.	1	5	1	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	11
80th	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	11	.	1	.	.	9	22
Anspach	.	.	1	.	11	.	.	4	.	30	.	.	.	.	.	46
P. Hereditaire	.	.	2	2	19	.	.	7	1	49	.	.	.	2	14	96
Bose	1	.	4	.	13	.	1	4	3	32	.	.	.	1	10	69
Total	2	4	13	4	133	5	1	24	11	285	1	2	1	3	63	552

they are in bad order, sickly, and by no means equal to what the British fleet is by our description of it. He thinks the French could not be ready for Sea in leſs than 8 days after the 24th October.

The French Officers, by Colonel Abercrombie's account, behaved in the handsomeſt manner to the British Officers at Yorktown, and shewed the utmoſt contempt of the Rebels.

The Enemy carried on their approaches againſt Lord Cornwallis's entrenched Camp, in as regular a manner, and with as much caution, as if they had been besieging a town regularly fortified.

1st Novr — Very heavy rain all day. It began at day break, & continued without intermiſsion, with a Strong wind at E. by N. 'till night.

Our fleet muſt have ſtood off this day, as this wind and weather makes it very dangerous to come in with the land.

I saw a note this day from Sir Saml Hood, saying, he was not to come within Sandy hook, but as soon as he had landed the troops, was to proceed with his division immediately to Barbadoes.

Ensign Moody of the New Jersey Volunteers went out this day with two other persons, upon a buſineſs of much consequence, and danger. The particulars, I do not describe now, lest I should by any accident lose my memorandum book.

See 20th Novr 1781 —

2ed Novr — Clear fine day. Wind Variable, but laterally W.

About 250 Soldiers belonging to the troops taken at York & Gloucester, came from thence in the Bonetta. They had most of them been in the Rebel service, and were therefore sent here by virtue of the 8th Article of the Capitulation, lest the Rebels should lay hold of them. They were so extremely riotous on board yesterday, that it was found absolutely neceſsary, notwithstanding the badneſs of the weather, to land them in town. It was intended they should be sent to Long Island to canton there.

Lieut Colonel Abercrombie, who brought Lord Cornwallis's dispatches for the Commander in Chief, went down to Sandy hook this morning, in order to go out to the fleet as soon as it appears.

British Fleet under the Command of Admiral Graves.

London	90	Chatham	50
Prince George	90	Warwick	50
Barfleur	90	Centurion	50
Princeſsa	74	Adamant	50
Bedford	74	Aſsurance	44
Canada	74		
Ajax	74	Nymphe	40
Shrewsbury	74	Santa Margarita	36
Robuste	74	Perseverence	36
Resolution	74	Pearl	32
Royal-Oak	74	Orpheus	32
Centaur	74	Amphion	32
Alcide	74	Sybil	28
Alfred	74	Pegasus	28
Montague	74	Garland	24
Monarch	74	Huſsar	24
Invincible	74		
Torbay	74		
Prince William	64		
Intrepid	64		
Belliqueux	64		
Prudent	64		
Europe	64		
Lion	64		
America	64		

3...90
15...74
7...64 } 30 — of 2 decks.
4...50
1...44

3rd Novr — Good weather. Wind, W. N. W.

Part of our fleet came in sight of Sandy hook laſt night, and some of the transports went over the bar towards them.

The whole fleet came to an anchor this Morning about three leagues from Sandy hook. All the transports went out in the course of the day, and anchored near the men of war, in order to take the troops out. It is imagined the fleet will proceed to sea immediately after the troops are landed, as the French fleet is ſtill in the Chesapeak.

4th Novr — Clear weather. Fresh wind at N. W. all laſt night and this day.

The Commander in Chief, and the Officers that attended him on board The London, landed this morning at Denyce's ferry, and came to town about 3 o'Clock in the afternoon.

The troops have all got on board the transports from the ships of war, and only wait for a fair wind to come in. The transports are to land the troops as soon as poſsible at Denyce's, and then go back over the bar with water for the Men of war.

By the lateſt intelligence the French fleet is ſtill in Chesapeak. The cause of their remaining there so long is said to be, in order to cover the troops employed in securing the poſts of York & Glouceſter. Tis said some line of battle ships, and part of the Corps under M. Rochambeau, are to be left there. It is very probable the French will do all in their power to secure a considerable supply of tobacco from Virginia, and will therefore eſtablish a respectable poſt in York River.

Our fleet being now in great force, and in the opinion of every person fully equal to that of the French, our Admirals will be unpardonable if they lose a moments time in proceeding to cruize off Chesapeak. As the French muſt come out soon, every poſsible ſtep should be taken to bring them to action, when, if our force is exerted with that spirit and unanimity which formerly actuated The British fleet, a Victory may be obtained worthy our former Naval character, and fully equivalent to our late loſs in Virginia. A decisive victory over this fleet, which from their present condition may reasonably be expected, would put our affairs on a better footing than they have been since France joined the Rebels.

5th Novr — Clear weather, but ſtrong cold wind at N. W. all day.

None of the transports anchored without the bar could attempt to move this day. The Commander in Chief is very uneasy about the situation of the troops on board the transports, lest the wind should encrease, and oblige the ships to go to Sea, in which case they must be liable to the greatest distreſs, being much crouded, and having only seven days bread on board. The Officers are now very ill provided with provisions and other neceſsaries.

6th Novr — Cold weather, but no frost. Fresh wind at W. Some of the transports worked up within the Narrows.

Admiral Graves gave up the Command of the Fleet the day it came to anchor off Sandy hook. Rear Admiral Digby now commands on this station.

It seems to be determined that our fleet is not to go off Chesapeak, but to seperate immediately; Admiral Graves, to go in a frigate to Jamaica, on which station he is to Command: Admiral Hood to proceed directly to Barbadoes, with 16 sail of the line, and Admiral Digby to remain here. Not a syllable is said respecting the place where our line of Battle ships on this station are to winter. Indeed while the French remain on the Coast, and their destination is uncertain, nothing can be determined on.

It appears very extraordinary that all Ideas of looking again at The French fleet are given up. We do not know that they have quitted the American coast, and yet we are preparing to seperate our Naval force immediately. This is contrary to all Military ideas, and is a tacit acknowledgement of the Enemy's superiority. I believe I may venture to affirm, that as soon as the French know our fleet has seperated, they will go to sea, part to Martinico, and part to the Cape to convoy from thence a very valuable fleet of Merchant men bound to France, and now waiting there for them.

The spirit of party prevails in the greatest degree in our fleet at present, and our Officers seem more anxious to ruin their private enemies, than those of their Country.

The winter quarters of the troops are in some measure determined on. Several Corps are to be placed in situations where at present there are no materials for constructing the huts, or barracks they are to paſs the winter in. I must say our Commanding Engineer, has been extremely remiſs in his preparations for this part of the service. Barracks for 3000 men, framed, and ready to put together, were put on board a ship in order to go [to] the West Indies with Sir George Rodney, when he was last here; but he having thought proper to leave the ship behind, the materials were ordered to be applied for the use of the Army here; and previous to the late departure of Sir Henry Clinton, several stations were fixed on, where those barracks were to be erected; but to this day the Engineer has not had the ship entirely unloaded; not a stick has been carried to the places where the barracks are to be constructed, nor are the bricks yet burnt of which the Chimneys are to be built. 6000 troops are hourly expected to disembark, and most of them are at this late season to be encamped until they can build huts, or erect other covering for themselves during the winter, which 'tis expected will be a very severe one. — !!!

It is vexatious to see the expence to which Government is put for building very good, I may say elegant, houses, for a Commiſsary of forage, and a Commiſsary of provisions, at the Flagstaff, Staten-Island, whose only buſineſs is to superintend the delivery of those articles, to one British, and two weak Provincial Regiments, stationed there. I have been aſsured from very good authority, that those houses, and the different conveniences about them, cost £1000 — Sterling at least. These Commiſsaries with all their deputies, and attendants, cost the Nation about £4000 — a year; and yet the duty would be done as well, by some honest Subaltern, or worthy Refugee, who would build his own hut, and be thankful, for 10 Shillings a day. But this is not a singular instance: the same system of enormous expencepervades every branch of the four great departments of this Army, vizt The Commiſsary General's, Quarter Master General's, Barrack Master General's, and Engineer's.

7th Novr The weather more moderate this day than yesterday. Wind W. and not so violent.

Most of the transports got within Sandy hook this day, and some of them as high as Denyces.

Landed this day		Cantoned at
4	Companies — 42ed	Flatbush
4	38	
4	1st Grenadrs	Bedford
4	2ed D°	
4	Heſsn Grendrs	Denyces

Admiral Hood has made a requisition of the 69th Regiment, to be put on board the ships of his Squadron destined for the

Weſt Indies. They are ordered to march toMorrow to Denyces for that purpose, but The Commander in Chief is endeavoring to get Sir Samuel Hood to take on board in their ſtead, some Recruits that are here deſtined for the Regiments in the Weſt Indies.

8th Novr — Cold day. Fresh wind at N. W.

Some of the troops landed this day at Denyces ferry, and Gravesend bay, but the wind encreasing when the tide began to ebb, it put a ſtop to any further disembarkations. Many ships are endeavoring to work up from The hook.

Sir Samuel Hood having represented in ſtrong terms the neceſsity he is under of requiring 400 troops to go on board his squadron, and that unleſs he gets them he cannot answer for the safety of his ships, or consider them as fit for action, The Commander in Chief has come to a resolution, leſt any blame should be thrown upon him in case of ill ſucceſs, to send the 69th Regimt to him. They accordingly received orders this Morning to croſs to Brooklyn as soon as poſsible, and march from thence to Denyces & embark there. They did not all get over to Brooklyn till after Sunset, and as it was then too late to march to Denyces and embark, they were cantoned in the houses and barns near Brooklyn. The Flank Companies of the Regiment are ordered to join it.

The Officers of this Regiment are extremely disappointed in being ordered on board the fleet again; as they had every reason to expect they would have continued with this Army. The Regiment had been on board Sir Samuel Hood's Squadron from their leaving England in 178 , until they landed here; and as they did not agree very well with the Officers of some of the ships, it makes their situation ſtill more disagreeable.

9th Novr — Very cold day. Slight froſt in the Morning, but pretty severe at night. Strong wind at N. W.

Some more of the transports came up this Morning, and part of the troops on board them landed but as soon as the tide

Troops landed 9th Novr

8 Comps Heſsian Grenadiers	Encamped at	Denyces.
4 Do 37th	Cantoned at	Utrecht.
2 Jagers		Wallabought.
British & Provincial Detachmts from one ship } ...		Gravesend
40th Light Infantry.		

turned the swell became so great, that it was dangerous for the boats with troops to paſs from the ships.

Many ships are ſtill at Sandy hook, and there are ſtill some without the bar, with the ships of war. So long a run of N. W. winds and so violent, at this season of the year, has hardly been remembered.

The Conflagration fireship, and the Eolus, a transport, with the baggage of the British General Officers, on board, are ſtill miſsing. 'Tis supposed they have been taken, or obliged to bear away for the Weſt Indies.

The Orpheus, Frigate, came up from Gravesend bay this morning, and anchored near the town.

The 69th Regiment marched this Morning to Denyce's ferry, and embarked there at one o'Clock on board two transports, which are to carry them down, on board Sir Samuel Hood's Squadron.

'Tis said our fleet will now seperate immediately. The principal part to go with Sir Sam^l^ Hood to Barbadoes. Admiral Graves in The London to Jamaica. The Robuſte, and Europe to come up to New York, in order to go home with the Convoy: and the remainder to go round to Oyſter bay, Long Island, where they are to winter.

It appears highly imprudent to seperate our fleet in this manner, so long as the French continue in Chesapeak. They were there according to the lateſt accounts from thence. It is not improbable but they intend sending a Squadron to winter at Rhode Island; and perhaps wait for the seperation of our fleet to do it in safety.

A moſt deſtructive spirit of party prevails in our fleet at this time; some espousing the part and opinions of one Admiral, some of another, and others abusing them all. This is highly injurious to the cause of our Country, and weakens even the force we have.

10th Nov^r^ — Froſt laſt night and this day. Wind N. W. Not much of it in the morning, but fresh in the middle of the day.

The diſtribution of the troops for the ensuing Winter was given out in orders this day.

The horses of the Army ordered to be furnished with dry forage from this day. The Ration to consiſt of 12 lbs of hay, and 8 lbs of Oats.

Diſtribution of Quarters & Cantonments for the Army in the diſtrict of New York — Winter 1781. —

New York Island, & Paulus Hook.

Royal Artillery	New York
40th Regiment	
Linsing	
Lengercké	
Loewenſtein	
(Late) Graff	
Landgrave	
Bunau	
Combined Battalion	
37th Regiment	Kingsbridge
Loſsberg	
Heſse Hanau	
Du Corps	McGowans paſs.
Prince Charles	
42ed Regiment	North River shore
Donop	Eaſt River shore
50 — of King's Am: Dra^{gs}	Haerlem
22ed Regiment	Paulus hook —
40th Light Comp^{y}, &	
Detach^{t} of Light Inf^{y}	

Staten Island.

57th Regiment	Flagſtaff
3rd N. Jers: Volunteers	
American Legion	
1st N. J. Volunteers	Richmond.

Long Island.

17th Dragoons	Hampſtead
Jagers	Herricks, Jericho &c.
38th	Flushing
54th	
Loyal Americans	Flushing-Fly
Pensacola Garrison	Newtown
Queen's Rangers	Hallet's-Cove
British Grenadiers	Jamaica
Anspach Recruits	Forſter's Meadows.
Detachments of Absent British Corps	Bedford
Anhalt Zerbſt, &	Brooklyn, & The Fort.
Garrison Battalion	
3rd Delancey's	Flatbush
King's Amer: Dragoons	Utrecht
Bruns: & Heſse Han: Recruits	Denyce's.
Guides & Pioneers	Bushwick.

Sir Saml Hood's fleet. 11th Novr

Barfleur	90	R. A. Sir S. Hood Captain Hood
Prince George	90	Wilkinson
Princeſsa	74	R. A. Drake Capt
Bedford	74	Capt T. Graves
Canada	74	Cornwallis
Ajax	74	
Shrewsbury	74	
Resolution	74	Ld R. Manners.
Royal Oak	74	
Centaur	74	Inglefield
Alcide	74	Thompson
Alfred	74	Baine
Montague	74	Bowen
Monarch	74	
Torbay	74	Gedoin
Invincible	74	Saxton
Intrepid	64	Molloy
Prudent	64	Barclay
Belliqueux	64	
America	64	
Warwick	50	

There have been some reports through the Rebels lately, that a Frigate had arrived at Boston from France, which brought an account, that a peace was likely to take place among the European powers at War; and that The Americans were not to be included in it.

11th — Cold raw weather. Thick, and likely to Snow. Wind N. E.

Captains Apthorp & Champagné, of the 23rd, and Lieut Fraser of the 17th Regiment, came in this after[noon] from Virginia by land. They got permiſsion to travel thro' the Country from Yorktown, and the permiſsion was signed by Washington's Aide-de-Camp; but as soon as Washington heard of it, an expreſs was sent after them to bring them back; but as they were apprehensive of something of the kind, they travelled very fast for the first three or four days, so that the Expreſs returned without being able to overtake them. This they heard when they got to Philadelphia, where they rested some days.

When they left Yorktown, most of the British had marched for Fredericksburg, Winchester &c. in Virginia, and The Germans for Lancaster in Pennsylvania.

Sir Samuel Hood's Squadron sailed this Morning from Sandy hook for The West Indies.

12th Novr Snow from 8 this Morning 'till 11, but it did not lie. Wind N.

The 54th Regiment croſsed to Brooklyn at 8 this morning, and marched from thence to their quarters at Flushing.

Daniel Wier Esqr Commiſsary General of The Army, died this morning.

Proportion of Tools —for each Corps that is to Hutt.

24	Spades, or Shovels.
8	Pick Axes.
16	Felling Axes.
2	Cross-Cut Saws.
2	Hand-saws.
1	Whip-saw.
12	Hammers
1	Cask of Nails.

All the above (except the Nails) to be returned when the huts are finished, and the Quarter Masters are to give receipts for them.—

13th Novr — Mild day. Wind W.

All the troops are now landed, and cantoned in the barns on Long Island, except 5 Companies of the 22ed Regiment, and part of Loewenstein's Battalion of Heſsian Grenadiers, which are still on board.

The following Corps marched this day to their winter Cantonments, vizt.

The British Grenadiers, from Bedford, to Jamaica.
The 3rd Delancey's, from Jamaica to Flatbush.
The 38th, from Flatbush to Flushing.
Linsing & Lengercké, from Yellow hook to Brooklyn, & from thence croſsed to New York.

Most of the ships of war came up this day from Sandy hook, and anchored at the Watering-place, Staten Island.

The Agent of transports reported this Morning, that on the night of the 10th Six Rebel whale boats from Brunswick came among the transports and veſsels lying in Gravesend bay, and after having been hailed by several ships which had troops on board, and answered that they belonged to the Men of War, they rowed alongside a Victualler called The Father's desire, were hail'd, and answered that they were boats belonging to the

Ships of war coming to preſs, on which all the men run below the deck. The Rebels then boarded the ship, cut her cable, and made sail with her towards Amboy, but the day breaking about the time they got as far as Billop's point, they were discovered by The Crane Galley stationed there, who fired some shot, and slipped after them. The Rebels finding they could not escape with the ship, set fire to her, and abandoned her. She was entirely burnt; and had 1000 barrels of provisions and 30 puncheons of Rum on board, that had been taken out of the ships of war, without Sandy hook.

Cantonments appointed for the Officers of the undermentioned Corps, who are prisoners on parole. — 14th Novr

Guards Light Infy 17th Regt 23rd	Huntington	Anspach P. Hereditre Bose	Bethpeg Oyster bay & that district.
80th	Islip	Queen's Rangrs Legion No Care Regt Capt Branson's Co	Staten Island
33rd . . . . . . 43rd . . . . . . 71st 76th	Jerusalem Rockaway & that district.		

The Officers and men of the Corps in So Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida, to be cantoned on the 17th at Flatlands, and New Lotts.

The Officers of Heſse Hanau, & Brunswick to canton for the present at Bedford, and, from thence on the road to Jamaica.

All Officers belonging to the Pensacola Garrison, to be cantoned within the Newtown district.

Flushing Flushing-fly Jamaica	to be cleared for	38th, & 54th Loyal Americans British Grenadiers

The Swallow Packet, sailed for England this Morning. Lord Lincoln, Lord Dalrymple, Lieut Colonel Simcoe, and some other Officers went in her.

Serjt Williams of the 23rd, and Serjt Wilkinson of the 63rd came in this morning by way of Paulus hook. They left Fredericksburg in Virginia the 29th October last, the day after the troops arrived there from Yorktown, and have travelled in disguise thro' the Country from thence, and underwent great fatigue, and many difficulties. They say numbers of the men of that Army may be expected in soon, as they were determined to make their escape as fast as opportunities offered.

14th Novr — Very fine mild day. Wind N. W. in the morning, and S. in the afternoon.

The remainder of Loewenstein's Battalion landed this morning at Denyces.

The 42ed Regiment, and (late) Graff's Battalion, march'd this morning to Brooklyn, and croſsed to New York: the 42ed, then marched to their Cantonments on the North River shore, and Graff's to their quarters in town.

Most of the transports from Gravesend bay, and Denyce's, came up and anchored in the North River.

15th Very fine day. Wind N.

Came in a small veſsel, a flag of truce from Chesapeak, which she left five days ago. An Officer of the Quarter Master General's department, and some British Merchants taken at Yorktown, came in her.

The French fleet sailed from Chesapeak the 4th Instant.

A flag of truce veſsel with Lord Cornwallis, and the staff Officers of his Army, sailed the 4th from Yorktown for this port.

The 37th Regiment marched from Gravesend this Morning, and croſsed from Brooklyn to New York, from whence they marched to Kingsbridge.

Lowensteins Battalion marched from Denyce's to Brooklyn, and croſsed to their quarters at New York.

Arrangement for the Movement of the undermentioned Corps.

15th Novr — *37th* — From Gravesend to Brooklyn at 8, croſs to New York, and march to Kingsbridge.

Loewenstein, from Denyces to Brooklyn at 9, and croſs to New York.

Heſsian Detachments, from Flatlands to Brooklyn at 8, and croſs to New York.

16th — *Jagers*, from Kingsbridge to Horn'shook at 8; croſs to Hallet's-Cove, and march to Herricks.

Loyal Americans, from McGowans, to Horns-hook at 8: croſs to Hallet's Cove, and march to Flushing-fly.

3 Comps. 22ed, 40th Lt Inf: & Detachts of Lt Infantry, from Utrecht and Gravesend, to Denyces at daybreak, from thence in Sloops to Paulus hook.

5 Comps 22ed, from the Rainham-hall in the No River, and land at Paulus hook.

Anhalt-Zerbst, and *Waldeck Recruits*, from Paulus-hook, when relieved, in Sloops to Brooklyn: Anhalt, quarter at Brooklyn; Waldeckers march to Newtown.

17th — Heſse Hanau Jagers, from Wallabought to Denyces.

16th Novr — Hoar froſt laſt night. Remarkable fine day. Wind S. W.

Admiral Digby and Prince William Henry came on shore this day, and are to remain in town. There was no salute.

That part of the Jagers at Kingsbridge, marched from thence this Morning to Horn's-hook, from whence they croſsed to Hallet's Cove, and then marched towards their Cantonments at Herricks.

The Loyal Americans also croſsed at the same time and place, and marched to their Cantonments at Flushing fly.

The Anspach Recruits marched yeſterday, by miſtake to Brooklyn. This day they marched two miles beyond Jamaica, on their way to join the Anspach Jagers at Herricks.

The 22ed Regiment landed this morning at Paulus hook, as did the Detachments of Light Infantry. Those Corps are to compose that Garrison.

The Anhalt Zerbſt Corps, and the Waldeck Recruits, which were relieved at Paulus hook by the 22ed, croſsed this day from thence to Brooklyn. The former quartered there, and the latter marched to Newtown to join their Regiment.

17th Novr Heavy rain from 10 this Morning till night. Fresh wind at E. N. E.

The Swallow Packet did not sail from Sandy hook 'till yeſterday.

A party of Rebels in whaleboats from Brunswick, landed the night before laſt near Gravesend, and robbed a house in that Neighbourhood. As soon as the alarm was given, they were pursued by some troops from that place, but too late. Something should be immediately undertaken for the deſtruction of that neſt of Plunderers, otherwise our Cantonments in that district will be exposed to insult during the winter.

18th Novr — Very fine day. Wind W.

138 Recruits lately drafted to the 17th, 23rd, & 33rd Regiments, were drafted this day to the 40th, 54th, & 57th at Brooklyn.

State, and Diſtribution of The Troops in the N. York diſtrict. 18th Novr

Corps	Fit for duty	Sick	Total	Station	How quartered.
Royal Artillery	390	73	1017	New York	Barracks
17th Dragoons	286	46	394	Hampſtead	Cantonments
1st Grenadiers	506	28	536	Jamaica	Hutts
2ed Grenadiers	434	43	478	Jamaica	Hutts
22ed Regiment	378	36	430	Paulus hook	Barracks
37th	373	71	457	Kingsbridge	Hutts, & Barracks
38th	366	68	437	Flushing	Hutts
40th	245	51	311	New York	Barracks
42ed	626	53	683	North River shore	Cantonments
54th	332	73	407	Flushing	Hutts
57th	352	32	391	Flagſtaff	Barks Hutts, & Encampd
British Detachments	141	57	198	Flatlands	Cantonments
Jagers	787	111	1081	Herricks, Jericho, Weſtbury &c.	Cantonments
Linsing	295	85	381	New York	Barracks
Lengercké	342	50	393	New York	Barracks
Loewenſtein	311	74	387	New York	Barracks
(Late) Graff	298	101	399	New York	Barracks
Prince Charles	484	23	507	Yellow hook	Cantonments
Du Corps	448	46	495	Guannas	Cantonments
Landgrave	453	49	504	New York	Encamped
Donop	414	72	487	McGowan's	Hutts
Knyphausen	265	33	501	New York	Barracks
Losberg	407	81	492	Kingsbridge	Hutts & Barracks
Bunau	409	88	498	New York	Encamped
Combined Battalion	245	159	404	New York	Barracks
Heſse Hanau	444	172	616	Kingsbridge	Hutts & Barracks
Heſse Hanau Detachments	47	6	53	Denyces	Hutts
Anhalt Zerbſt	325	38	364	Brooklyn	Barracks
Brunswick Recruits	153	2	159	Denyces	Hutts
Anspach Recruits	104	32	136	Herricks	Cantonments
German Artillery	284	26	310	Detached with each Regiment	
1st Delancey's	247	51	338	Flatbush	Cantonments
1st N. Jersey Volunteers	245	44	392	Richmond	Hutts
3rd Do	209	33	394	Flagſtaff	Hutts, & Barracks
Loyal Americans	123	82	287	Flushing fly	Hutts, & Cantonts
Guides & Pioneers	89	15	178	Horns hook	Hutts
American Legion	172	41	217	Fresh Meadows	Cantonments
King's American Dragoons	140	37	177	Utrecht	Cantonments
Garrison Battalion				Brooklyn	Barracks
Queen's Rangers				Hallets Cove	Cantonments
British Legion				Springfield	Cantonments
40th L. Inf: & Lt Inf: Detachts	115	14	129	Paulus hook	Barracks
Pensacola Garrison	173	122	947	Newtown	Cantonments

19th — Fine mild weather. Wind W. Some Rain in the Morning, but clear and fair after 12 o'Clock.

The Cochrane, a flag of truce ship from Virginia came up this Morning, with Lord Cornwallis, his Suite, several Staff Officers of his Army, and about 20 other Officers. They sailed from Chesapeak the 4th Novr. They made the land the 17th during that gale of wind, and were in three fathom water, and in the utmost danger of being lost, but a person on board who had been a pilot for this port, having got sight of the land for a moment, knew it, and pushed directly for the hook, and very fortunately steered the ship in safe that Evening, altho it was at last so thick a fog that they could not see the land. The ship was so near the land at one time that they found it impoſsible to clear it by standing to Sea, and were under the neceſsity of pushing for the hook.

Lord Cornwallis went immediately after he landed to The Commander in Chief, and was alone with him for near an hour.

20th Novr Frost last night and this day. Good weather. Wind N. W.

Ensign James Moody of The New Jersey Volunteers came in yesterday to Staten Island. His escape out of the Country this time without having been discovered, is very surprizing.

The enterprize he was sent upon with some others, (see 1st November) was this. A person who had been employed as a Clerk in the Office of the Private Secretary of Congreſs, having been disgusted at not receiving an encrease of his Salary, quitted his employment, and went on board a Rebel veſsel, in which he was taken, and brought a prisoner into this port: some time after he had been here, he intimated to Captain Beckwith, that as he was resolved to be revenged on Congreſs, he would engage, if he was set at liberty, to go to Philadelphia, and take out of the Secretary's Office, all the most interesting private papers of Congreſs, their letters and instructions to their Ministers at Foreign Courts, &c, &c., and deliver them to such persons as should be appointed to receive them. This being approved of, he was accordingly sent out on parole, and the time, place and persons appointed for carrying the scheme into Execution. He was to bring the papers to a certain place, and deliver them to Moody, Moody's brother, and another person, who were to bring them in. Every poſsible precaution was taken for insuring his fidelity, and the reward agreed upon was adequate to the importance of the service and the risk he run. The abovementioned three persons went from hence the Morning of the 2ed Novr, in two whaleboats well armed, which were to land them near Egg harbour, and return to the same place for them at a time appointed. They were landed safe, and the boats returned the day following to this place. On the 11th we were informed by Captains Apthorp and Champagné who arrived that day from Philadelphia, that on the 8th, two men were apprehended there, on the information of a third who was an accomplice, for a design to rob the Secretary's Office of private papers. These proved to be Moody's brother, and his companion.

It has since been found out, that the person who was the framer of this Scheme betrayed them, and gave information where Moody's brother and the other were concealed in Philadelphia, in consequence of which they were apprehended, and Moody's brother has been hanged. Ensign Moody who lay concealed in Jersey among his friends, was immediately searched for, and as he was well known in the Country there was the utmost danger of his being discovered; as soon as his friends informed him of the fate of his brother, he determined to go immediately to Philadelphia, as the most unlikely place to be found in, and there he lay concealed with a known friend until the heat of the search was over, after which he made the best of his way through the unfrequented parts of Jersey to Staten Island.

The Lord Mulgrave, one of the transports taken at Yorktown, and fitted up as a flag of truce, sailed from the Chesapeak the day before Lord Cornwallis did, having on board above 100 British Officers; besides their Servants, and Seamen, bound for this port. As there were only 28 days provisions on board, besides some stock which the Officers had put on board for their private use, and the ship is very light, we are under great apprehensions for her safety.

21st Novr Cold raw weather, inclining to Snow. Frost last night and all this day. Wind N. W.

No account yet of The Lord Mulgrave; so that 'tis feared she has been obliged to bear away for the West Indies.

22ed — Frost. Cold day. Fresh wind at S. W.

Some Officers came in by land from Virginia. Mr Washington has made it a great favor to grant any indulgence of this kind to the Officers taken at Yorktown. I think his behavior to the Officers taken there has been brutish and scandalous to the laſt degree, and shews that he takes every opportunity of gratifying his private resentment againſt the British troops. Nothing can be a ſtronger proof of this, than his crouding above 100 British Officers, with every thing belonging to them, on board one transport ship, that had been sunk during the siege, and was only raised again a few days before the Officers were sent on board her; then sending her to Sea at this season of the year, with only 28 days provisions and water, to make a voyage from Chesapeak to New-York, when from her being so very light, and the prevailing winds at this season, it was hardly poſsible she could make the paſsage. Lord Cornwallis, with about 30 Officers was also put on board a ship that was raised but a few days before he went on board her. Two other ships in the like circumſtances with British and German Officers on board, sailed some time ago from Cheasapeak for this port, and have not yet been heard of. It is not uncharitable to suppose that M^r^ Washington cared very little whether any of them ever reached this place. If he had acted upon any generous principle, he would have given permission to such as chose it, to go through the Country; in which they would have expended a considerable sum of money, and could have got no information of any consequence.

Three veſsels arrived yeſterday at Sandy hook, but we know not what they are.

We learn from the Rebels that The French and Spaniards have attacked Minorca, and that The Combined fleets are Cruizing in the British Channel, while ours is obliged to keep in port.

23rd Nov^r^ Strong wind all laſt night. Froſt. Cold day. Fresh wind at W.

One of the ships arrived at Sandy hook, is The Eolus, a transport which sailed with the fleet the 19th October, and had on board the baggage of The Commander in Chief, and the other British Generals; another is The Andrew, a Cartel from Yorktown, with Officers, of the German Regiments.

No account of The Lord Mulgrave.

24th — Fine weather. Frost, but not severe. Wind W.

The American Legion marched this day from Fresh Meadows to Hallets Cove, in order to paſs toMorrow to this Island, and quarter at Haerlem, where they are to be stationed.

30 of The King's American Dragoons, paſsed this Morning from Denyces to Staten Island, in order to complete the troop of that Corps now stationed there.

25th Novr Hard frost last night. Cloudy after 8 this morning. Wind N. E. Thaw from 10 oClock. Some rain at 12. Fresh wind at E. at 3. Heavy rain and strong wind at E. S. E. from 7 in the Evening.

The Andrew, a Cartel from York, came up; she has all the German Officers, and a few of those of The Queen's Rangers, on board.

The German Officers on board this ship behaved in a most improper manner to Lieut Colonel Dundas, and some other Officers of the 80th Regiment, who being blown off the Coast in a small veſsel, fell in with The Andrew, and as their own veſsel was very unfit to beat up to windward and Short of provisions, they desired to be taken on board The Andrew, which the German Officers refused peremptorily, until by the resolute behavior of Col° Dundas, and the interposition of the Officers of The Queen's Rangers, they were obliged to comply.

26th Novr Rain most part of last night. Change of wind and fair weather early this morning. Strong gale of wind at N. W. all day. No frost.

The Amphion, 32 Guns, Captain Bazeley, came in yesterday from a Cruize. She saw a large light transport with a flag of truce hoisted, on the 24th Inst, which from description must have been the Lord Mulgrave.

27th — Cold raw day. Fresh wind at N. Great appearance of Snow and bad weather.

The Commander in Chief has directed that One Field Officer, 2 Captains, and 6 Subalterns of each of The British Regiments taken in Virginia, including those Officers now with the men, shall remain in America. The rest are to go to Europe.

Lord Cornwallis, and his suite, are going home in The Robuste 74 Guns, Captain Cosby.

28th Novr Snow from 9 this Morning. Wind N. E. Rain from 2 till night. Fresh wind at N. E.

Several British Soldiers who were taken at York, and Glouceſter, have already made their escape from the Rebels, and got in here. The Commander in Chief has ordered a Guinea and an half to be paid for the future to each Soldier who shall make his escape from the Enemy, and the like sum for each Soldier, to the person or persons bringing them in, or aſsiſting them.

29th — Froſt. Cold wind at N. W.

Came in yeſterday a ship from Glasgow in 13 weeks, but as she is ſtill at The Hook, we have not yet received any information by her.

Sailed a small Schooner for Charleſtown.

30th — Fine weather. Slight froſt. Wind N. W.

This being St Andrew's day, an Entertainment was given at Head quarters by The Commander, at which The Prince, The Admiral, the principal General Officers, and a Number of Scotch Officers were present. A Captain's Guard of the 42ed, or Royal Highland Regiment, with Colours, Bagpipes, &c., received The Prince on his arrival at Head quarters.

The Invalids, Non-Commiſsioner Officers, and others belonging to the Northern Army, with a number of other persons who are going to Europe, embarked this day on board the Fleet, which is expected to sail soon.

1st Decr Mild weather. No froſt. Wind N.

No account yet of The Lord Mulgrave, so that it is now generally imagined she has bore away for Charleſtown or the Weſt Indies. She has on board above 100 Officers, more than that number of Soldiers as Servants, and above 50 Seamen, which with Other persons who went on board, is supposed to amount to near 350 persons. She had 28 days provisions for the number of persons on board, 35 days bread, and 70 days water: besides a good deal of private ſtock, which the Officers took on board for the voyage to this port.

The Rebel papers mention the arrival of General Leslie at Charleſtown in the Carysfort, also the arrival of The Santa Monica, Fortunée, & Jane off the bar of that place.

A veſsel is arrived in The Delaware from France, who on her paſsage took a Packet from Charleſtown for England.

2ed Decr Very fine mild day. No froſt. Wind N.

Many of the transports and Victuallers bound for Europe, went out of the E. River this day, and anchored in the N. River. The fleet going home this winter, will be extremely full of passengers. Near 100 Officers are going. The Convoy is to be the Robuſte 74 Guns, Captain Cosby, and the Janus 44 — Capt O'Hara.

Some persons who came in this Morning from Jersey, report, that The Lord Mulgrave, Cartel ship was drove on shore, at Squan beach, 25 mile S. of Sandy hook, in the Gale on the 28th Novr. That no lives were loſt, but that 'tis feared the ship, and part of the Officers baggage will be loſt. Very little credit is given to the above report.

3rd — Very fine mild weather. No froſt. Wind W.

Moſt of the ships going to Europe with this fleet, are now in the North River.

4th Decr — Good weather. Wind N. N. E. Rain from 5 oClock this Evening.

Came in a Brig from Cork, after a long paſsage.

No further account of the loſs of The Lord Mulgrave, so that there is little doubt she has bore away for Charleſtown or The Weſt Indies.

5th — Rain great part of laſt night. Some snow this morning. Wind N. W. Clear after 11 o'Clock, and a fine day from that time.

6th — Raw, disagreeable weather. Some rain. Cloudy and thick. Wind N. N. E.

Five Anspach Soldiers taken at Yorktown came in this day, having made their way through the Country under pretence of their being deserters. They say above 20 British Soldiers of Lord Cornwallis's Army are now in Morriſtown Jail, who were taken up attempting to get into New York.

7th Decr Fine day. Slight froſt. Wind S. W. Fresh wind at N. W, and very cold after 6 at night.

Came in a Packet with the October Mail. She sailed from England the 23rd October. Captain Layard, and Lt Helyar of the 7th Regiment came in her.

8th — Slight froſt, and fresh wind at N. W. all laſt night. Pleasant day. Wind W. N. W.

Lord Cornwallis and his suite embarked this day on board The Robuſte 74 Guns, Captain Cosby.

Several ships of the Fleet bound for Europe went down to Staten Island this Morning.

9th — Snow all day. Wind N. E. About 3 Inches of Snow fell in all, but it did not lie, the ground being wet.

Moſt of the ships for Europe went down to the watering place Staten Island, this day. The Fleet will amount to about 130 sail.

10th Decr Some Snow laſt night. Hard froſt, and fresh wind at N. E. Very cold towards night. Wind N. W.

Came in The Chatham, and Orpheus from a Cruize, with two prizes.

The fleet for Europe are now all down at the Watering place, Staten Island, waiting for a wind. The laſt of The Commander in Chief's dispatches went down to the Robuſte this day.

11th — Very hard froſt laſt night, and this day, with a ſtrong wind at S. W, which prevented the fleet from going out.

Some veſsels have arrived at The Hook, within these two days, particularly two that were part of a fleet which sailed from England in September laſt under Convoy of The Rotterdam, 50 Guns, Captain Knowles. They parted the fleet some days ago, 170 leagues from the land. Lord Dunmore is on board the fleet, and left England in order to take poſseſsion of his Government of Virginia.

Came in an Expreſs veſsel in 9 days from Charleſtown, with dispatches from General Leslie. By this veſsel we have the agreeable account of the arrival of The Lord Mulgrave, Cartel ship, at Charleſtown, a few days before she sailed, all well.

Major Craig, and the Detachment under his Command, has been withdrawn from Wilmington in North-Carolina, and all the Troops in the Carolinas, are now collected in the Neighbourhood of Charleſtown, near which place General Greene is poſted with a large Army.

12th Decr — Hard froſt. Cold wind at S. W.

The fleet cannot move from Staten Island, while this wind laſts.

Came up a French Cutter of 16 Guns, taken by one of our Cruizers. She is last from Rhode Island.

13th Decr — Frost. Strong wind at S. W. last night and this day.

The Lion, 64 Guns, Admiral Digby's ship, came into the E. River this Morning from the N. River, as did most of the transports, that are to remain here for the winter. Several transports that are to be stationed this winter at Hallets Cove went up there this day.

14th — Hard frost, and cold wind at W. S. W.

The greatest part of the fleet for Europe, weighed from the watering place, this day, and went through the Narrows.

15th Hard frost, but no Ice yet in the Rivers. Wind W. S. W.

The remainder of the fleet went through the Narrows this Morning, and the whole went to Sea in the course of the day.

The Rebel whale boats from Brunswick have infested the lower part of the Bay very much of late, and land almost every night on that part of Long-Island. Last night they carried off five men of The King's American Dragoons, who were in sick quarters near Utrecht.

16th Decr Frost. Wind W.

Came in The Camel, 20 Guns, Captain from Charlestown, which place she left the 7th Inst.

The Bedford 74 Guns, Commodore Affleck, and The Prudent 64, Captain Barklay, went down this day. They are going to cruize off the Delaware.

17th Slight frost. Pleasant weather. Wind W.

The accounts from Charlestown are, that our Army there, is encamped on the Neck, at a place called The Quarter house, about 6 miles from Charlestown, and that Greene's Army is at, or near Dorchester. The Rebels give out that the siege of Charlestown is intended. It was reported there that a Spanish Armament had been seen on the Coast, supposed to be intended against St Augustine, or Savannah. Some troops have been sent from Charlestown to Savannah to reinforce that post.

As Charlestown is in a very respectable state of defence and the Army in that Province amounts to near 5000 men fit for duty, it appears very improbable that Greene will undertake so great an operation as the siege of that place, I am therefore of opinion that his view in drawing near to Charleſtown at this time is only to mask that place, while a Detachment is sent to attack Savannah, or St Auguſtine.

Return of Troops Embarked for Charleſtown — New York. 20th Decr 1781

Nations	Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Qr Masters	Mates	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & file	Servants	Women	Children	Total
British	.	2	8	7	9	.	1	9	11	98	.	14	2	161
Germans	1	2	3	4	7	1	1	19	.	305	16	10	2	371
Provincials	.	1	6	3	4	.	.	6	1	51	1	7	1	81
Total	1	5	17	14	20	1	2	34	12	454	17	31	5	613

All Officers and men now here belonging to the Corps in the Southern Provinces, are to embark for Charleſtown immediately.

18th Decr Froſt. Fine mild day. Wind N.

We have heard nothing particular of Mr Washington since his arrival at Philadelphia from Virginia. Some of his troops from that Province have arrived in Jersey, and others are on their march towards the Highlands, where they are to be quartered for the winter.

19th Decr Clear fine day. Froſt. Wind N. in the morning and N. E. in the afternoon. Thaw in the Evening.

Came in a cartel veſsel from Charleſtown in 9 days, with about 30 of the Officers who put in there in The Lord Mulgrave.

Several prizes came in also.

20th — Heavy rain for two hours this Morning. Wind E. Clear after 11 o'Clock, with a fresh wind at S. W.

The Officers and men belonging to the Corps in the Southern Provinces, embarked this day on board five transports for Charleſtown. They amount to about 50 Officers and 600 men.

21st — Froſt. Good weather. Fresh wind at N. W.

The John, a Cartel ship with about 30 Officers from Charleſtown, part of those who were on board The Lord Mulgrave, came in yeſterday.

22ed Decr Hard frost last night, with the wind at N. Wind N. E. this Morning. Good weather, but inclined to Snow.

23rd — Frost. Very fine day. Wind N.

The transports with the troops for Charlestown went down this day. They are to be convoyed by The Charlestown, 32 Guns, Captain George.

24th — Cold raw morning. Wind N. E. Snow about 11 oClock, which continued till night. Fresh wind at E, and a hard frost, which made the snow drift.

The fleet for Charlestown remains at Sandy-hook.

25th — Snow part of last night. It now lies about five inches deep on an average. Clear pleasant day. Frost, but not severe. Some Ice in the North River. Wind N.

The fleet for Charlestown sailed this morning. A fleet is preparing to sail from hence bound to Cork: they will sail under Convoy of The Europe, and will consist chiefly of empty victuallers, and some trading ships.

26th Decr Foggy morning. Raw and cold. Hard frost. Wind S. W. Thermometer 22° this Morning.

If this frost continues 48 hours, no ship can venture to anchor in the North river, and the E. River will become very dangerous, as it is much filled with the Ice from the N. River, when the wind is at S. W.

Much ice in the N. river all day, which obstructed the passage of the small craft out of the E. River.

Some Seamen came in this day who belonged to the September Packet: (The Eagle, Captn Richards.) they inform us that she was taken the 29th Novr last in sight of Bermuda, by a Rebel Privateer, and carried into Salem, New England. The mail was thrown overboard.

Came in The Warwick 50 Guns, Captain Elphinstone, from a Cruize.

The Rebels have published an account of the Prisoners lately taken by them in Virginia.

See the Return book.

27th Decr — Thick weather. Wind S. W. Hard frost in the morning, but rain and thaw in the afternoon, and Wind N. E.

The Europe made a signal this morning for the Cork fleet to weigh, and get out of the E. River. She got under way, and went down a short distance, but the appearance of bad weather made her come to an anchor again.

28th Rain all day. Thick weather, and fresh wind at N. N. E. The Ice is all gone out of both rivers.

Most of the ships for Europe came out of the E. River, and the whole fleet is now ready to sail.

29th — Frost part of last night. Rain again this morning and a thaw. Wind W. The snow is almost gone.

Came in yesterday the Pandora, 24 Guns, Capt Inglis, from Quebec, but last from Halifax. Also a veſsel from Jamaica, and some flags of truce from Yorktown. The French would not suffer any of our people to go on shore at that place.

By the accounts of some persons very lately from Virginia it appears, that The French have turned all the Inhabitants out of York and Gloucester, and many out of Williamsburg, giving for a reason that the houses are wanted for the use of the troops, Stores, &c. &c.

The Country people having been very backward in bringing in supplies of provisions, forage, &c, for the use of The French troops, parties have been sent out to take whatever they wanted.

30th Decr Frost last night. Clear fine day. Wd S. W. Thaw after 9 o'Clock.

The Cork fleet, under convoy of the Europe 64 Guns, went down this Morning.

31st — Thick weather. Rain part of the day. Wind S. W. Very foggy towards evening.

Came in a veſsel from Jamaica, after a paſsage of 11 weeks.

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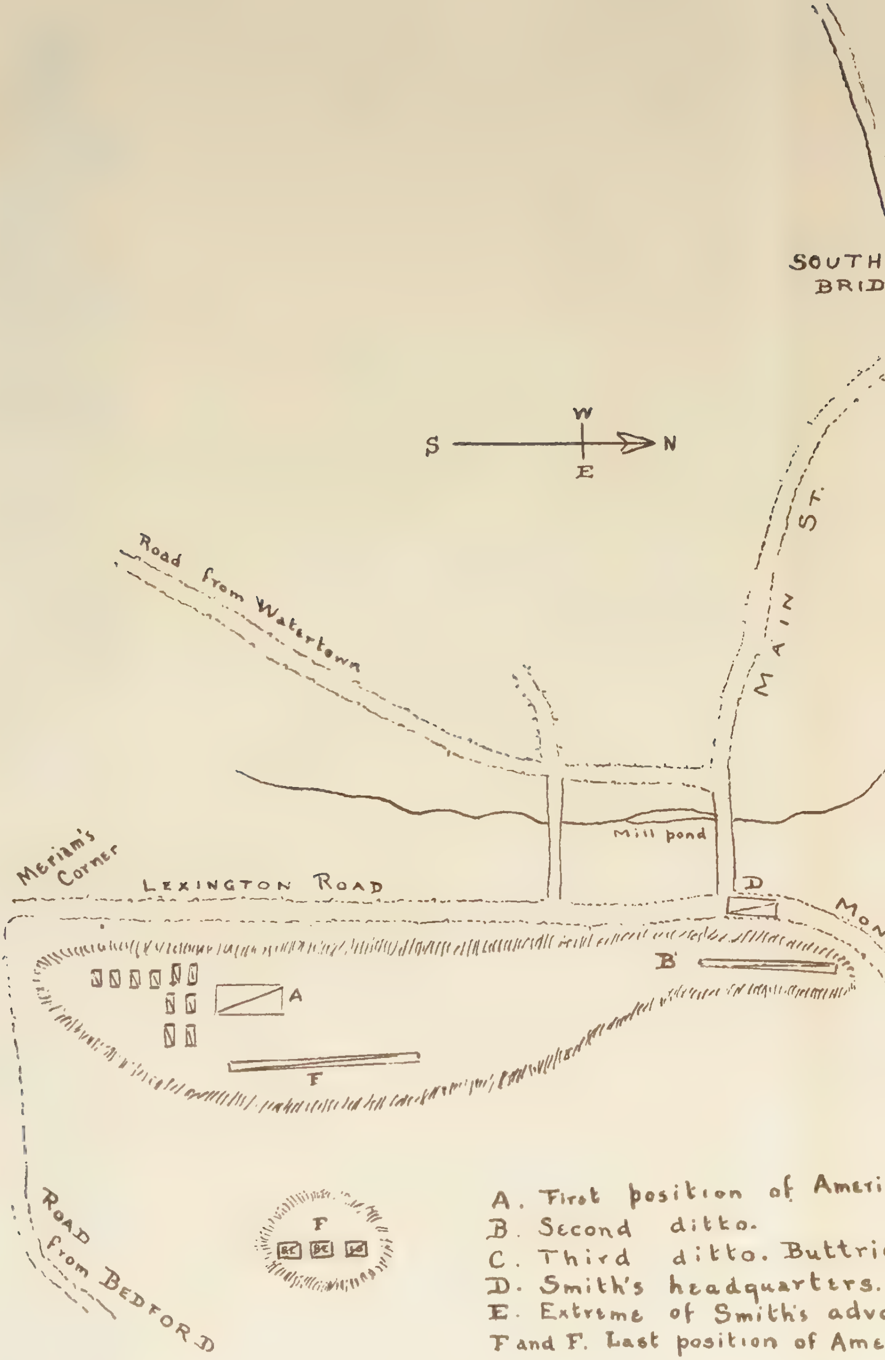
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Road from Watertown
Mill pond
Meriam's Corner
LEXINGTON ROAD
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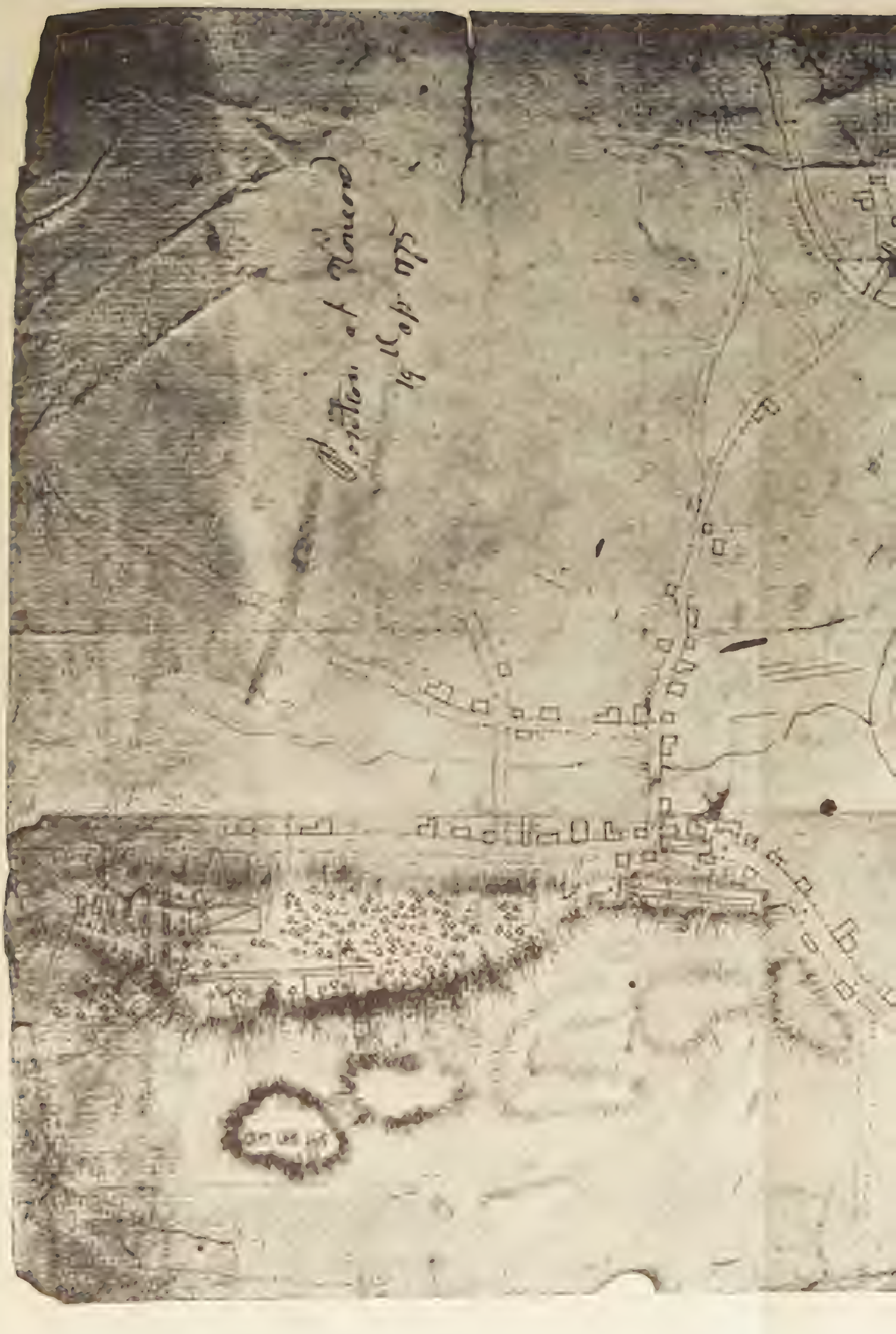
Road from Bedford
A. First position of Ameri
B. Second ditto.
C. Third ditto. Buttri
D. Smith's headquarters.
E. Extreme of Smith's adv
F and F. Last position of Ame

SKETCH INTERPRETING THE CONTEMPORA
IN THE DIARY

Drawn by Allen French, Esq.


Position at Concord
19th Apl 1775

CONTEMPORARY MAP OF THE POSITION AT CONCORD
INSERTED IN THE DIARY

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

THE MAP OF CONCORD

Note on the Mackenzie Map

The Concord map in the Mackenzie diary is the only contemporary map illustrating the action of the Nineteenth of April, 1775. It is pasted in the diary facing the page, copied by Mackenzie from the narrative of a brother officer, which describes events at Concord. The map was drawn with a pen of surprising fineness (if a quill) and black ink, and was annotated with a coarser pen and an ink not so black.

As a sketch-map it is reasonably accurate. Lexington Road, which is curved, is drawn straight. The houses seem to be put in at haphazard; for none of those which figure in the story of the day, such as the Wright Tavern and the Old Manse, can be distinguished. But on the whole the roads, the mill-pond, and the bridges, are correctly placed.

The interest in the map lies in its indication of the military actions, by the familiar device of oblongs, crossed by diagonals, to show the positions of bodies of troops. In the case of the British the oblongs are usually small, probably representing company units. The provincial forces, whose composition was unknown to the maker of the map, are commonly represented by larger oblongs.

The placing of the oblongs represents the progressive actions of the day. As the British approached Concord they discovered a body of provincial troops on the slope above Meriam's corner, and sent the light infantry to dislodge them. This action appears to be represented by the ten units climbing the slope against the larger unit. The Americans withdrew; the British followed.

The second position of the Americans is shown by the long thin oblong at the further end of the same ridge. Approached by the British, the Americans withdrew a second time, and presently crossed the river. The British occupied the square at the joining of the roads. Their force at this point, doubtless varying in size all through the morning, is represented by a single oblong of medium size.

From this post three companies, it is known, were sent to the South Bridge, which is at the upper part of the map. The outpost is indicated by two oblongs.

The North Bridge is at the lower right-hand corner of the map. Here is represented, near the Buttrick house on the hill, the mass of American minute-men, grown to a considerable force. This is according to known history. The new fact now presented by the map is the position of the British. It is known that six British companies marched to the bridge, three of which proceeded onward, by the road wandering up the side of the map, to the house of Colonel Barrett. Possibly their destination, with these three companies, was represented on the corner torn from the map. The main interest lies, however, with the troops near the bridge. It has long been known that the light company of the 43rd Regiment was at the bridge, and American statements have been made that the light companies of the 4th and 10th regiments were on the eastern side. The map now makes clear, however, that these two companies were placed where modern military science would put them, *across* the bridge on the western side, as outposts against the provincials and as supports for the troops at Colonel Barrett's.

The numbers of these three British companies near the bridge were put in by the annotator of the map. The same hand also made, with the coarser pen and lighter ink, four irregular marks across the road near where it turned from Concord to the bridge. It is known that, too late to prevent the fight, Smith marched toward the bridge with his grenadiers, met the fugitive British, halted, hesitated, and turned back. The marks in the road may be taken to indicate the extreme of Smith's advance.

There remain to be explained two other American positions, in the lower left-hand corner of the map. They bear upon the question, often asked in the past, what the Americans were doing in the two hours after the Fight and before the British retreat. On a hill separate from the ridge at Meriam's corner the maker of the map put three units of troops, marking them RE BE LS. And on the edge of the ridge he drew another such thin long oblong as he had already used to indicate the provincials. These positions (though in actual fact the separate hill is a full half-mile from the ridge) would seem to indicate that the Americans, massed at these points, were waiting to attack the British on their retreat.

There remains to be said only that the road from Bedford is shown at this corner, and that just beyond the North Bridge the end of the road from the hill, by which the Americans marched down to the attack, is faintly marked.

It is fascinating but dangerous to speculate on the history of the map. Who made it cannot be known. The annotator may have been Mackenzie himself, for the words, "Position at Concord, 19th Ap. 1775," resemble the hasty scribbling of his index pages. But this cannot be certain. One edge of the map is rumpled. The back is dirty, and is marked "Journal, 1775," with a list of the light-infantry companies that marched with Smith, but omitting the marines. That Mackenzie may have made the annotations, and that the map may have been drawn by Ensign De Berniere, is the most that can be said.

Interest will always attach, however, to this sole contemporary map. It contradicts nothing that was known before, and adds to our knowledge of that important day.